

AMERICAN AGRICULTURIST.

Designed to improve the Farmer, the Planter, and the Gardener.

AGRICULTURE IS THE MOST HEALTHY, THE MOST USEFUL, AND THE MOST NOBLE EMPLOYMENT OF MAN.—WASHINGTON.

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FOR PROSPECTUS, TERMS, &c.,
SEE LAST PAGE.

THE CABBAGE No. V.

ANOTHER enemy of this plant attacks the root. Your young plants are set out, and do well for a while, when they begin to wilt, and the edges of the leaves turn brown or yellow. You dig around the root, and find all the little rootlets cut off and the stem half rotten, and swarming with small white maggots. We have not been able to book this scoundrel with entire certainty, but we suspect him to be the *Anthomyia Raphani*, or radish fly, so called from the botanical name of the radish, on the roots of which its larvæ feed. They finish their transformations and appear above ground towards the end of June. There are several species of the *Anthomyiæ*, the larvæ of which are often found in excrements. From the fact that this disease prevails most in very rich garden soils, and in ground heavily manured with night soil, we think we are safe in classing this insect among the *Anthomyiæ*. We know of no help for these maggots when they have once commenced their attacks. They either entirely destroy the plant, or check its growth so that it fails to form a good head. Where it is not entirely destroyed, nature endeavors immediately to repair the injury, by sending out new roots from the stem; but by the time these are established, the better part of the season has passed. The safest way is to pull up plants attacked in this way, and to put out fresh ones in their place. Something may be done by way of preventing the depredations of these maggots. If the attack is occasioned by a too rich garden soil, trenching will remedy the difficulty; if it is brought on by night-soil, it shows that the manure has not been well composted and thoroughly mixed with the soil. Ground, that is in deep and thorough tillage, will rarely suffer from these maggots.

The *Aphis Brassicæ*, or cabbage louse, is sometimes very abundant on the under side of the leaves, in the month of August. The louse has long bony tubes, and its body is covered with a whitish mealy substance. The plants are most liable to attacks of this insect in dry weather. The leaves begin to cup, and the growth is checked. A dose of Scotch snuff and charcoal-dust, sprinkled on the leaves, will destroy the insects, and restore the leaves to their usual shape.

The *Pontia oleracea*, or pot-herb Pontia, a white butterfly, may be seen about the last of May and the beginning of June, fluttering over cabbage, radish, and turnip beds, for the purpose of depositing its eggs. These are fastened

to the under sides of the leaves, and but seldom are more than three or four left upon one leaf. The eggs are yellowish, nearly pear-shaped, longitudinally ribbed, and are one-fifteenth of an inch in length. They are hatched in a week or ten days after they are laid, and the caterpillars produced from them, attain their full size when three weeks old, and then measure about one inch and a half in length. Being of a pale green color, they are not readily distinguished from the ribs of the leaves beneath which they live.

The *Mamestra picta*, is a naked caterpillar, which is often found to be injurious to cabbages, cauliflowers, beets, and other garden vegetables. It does not conceal itself in the ground, but lives exposed upon the leaves of the plants it devours; when disturbed it coils its body spirally. It is of a light yellow color, with three broad, longitudinal black stripes, one on each side, and the third on the top of the back; and the head, belly, and feet are tawny. It comes to its full size in September, and is then about two inches long.

The *Arctia Virginica*, or yellow bear, is a much more troublesome insect in the garden. It is a great feeder, devouring almost all kinds of herbaceous plants with equal relish. Where they are numerous, they completely riddle the large leaves of the cabbage in a few days. This kind of caterpillar varies very much in its colors; it is perhaps most often of a pale yellow or straw color, with a black line along each side of the body, and a transverse line of the same color between each of the segments of rings, and it is covered with long, pale yellow hairs. They are to be found of different ages and sizes, from the first of June till October. When fully grown they are about two inches long, and then creep into some convenient place of shelter, make their cocoons, in which they remain in the crystal state during the winter, and are changed to moths in the months of May or June following. The moth is familiarly known by the name of the white miller, and is often seen about houses. It has a black point on the middle of the fore wings, and two black dots on the hind wings. It expands its wings from one inch and a half to two inches. Its eggs are of a golden yellow color, and are laid in patches upon the leaves of plants. In some parts of France and in Belgium, the people have been required by law to uncaterpillar their orchards and gardens, and have been punished by fine for the neglect of the duty. Although we have not yet become so prudent and public spirited as to enact similar statute regulations, we might find it for our advantage to offer a bounty for the destruction of caterpillars; and though we should pay for them by the quart, as we do for berries, we

should be gainers in the end, while the children whose idle hours were occupied in the picking of them, would find this a profitable employment.

The salt-marsh caterpillar is another depredator upon the cabbage plantation. It closely resembles the yellow bear in some of its varieties, and commits similar ravages upon the leaves.

These are the principal enemies of this plant; and the best remedies for their ravages are general measures for the destruction of all garden insects. For the destruction of grubs we have found salt and sea manures among the best of remedies. Lime, doubtless, and other alkalis, liberally applied, will destroy the eggs and young worms. These applications are safe and economical for other purposes, and nothing is lost in their application.

Their eggs are often deposited under the rough bark of fruit trees. These may be destroyed by scraping off the rough bark and burning it. If a pound of sal soda, such as is used for cooking purposes, be put into an iron vessel and heated red hot, and then dissolved in a gallon of water, and applied to the bark with a brush, it will destroy the eggs left by the scraper, make the bark smooth, and help the growth of the trees.

We have found the following a good plan to trap insects. Put water into a half hoghead or other large vessel. Put a narrow board across the top, and on the board set a common lantern. Set this vessel in the garden, and light your lantern at night. The insects will be attracted by the light, and in attempting to alight, many of them will fall into the water and be drowned.

Another method is to kindle a small fire of brush wood, or shavings, at evening. If this is kept up habitually through the months of June and July, when moths, millers, and beetles are most numerous, it will destroy a great multitude of them. Some gardeners put molasses and vinegar and water into narrow-mouthed bottles, and hang them up in their fruit trees and in other convenient places. The number of insects that will crowd into these bottles is astonishing.

Any of these methods will pay for all the time and money they cost. The great difficulty is to convince cultivators of the necessity of using any means to destroy insects. They get tolerable crops in spite of them, and have other business upon their hands, than to wage war against them. They are a large tax upon the labors of every cultivator, and cost the nation millions of money every year. Let every tiller of the soil then, keep his own premises clear of insects. Let him burn, drown, smoke, salt, and

pickle the enemy. Let him call the birds to his aid, build shelters for them in his fruit trees, and while they sing jubilant songs over the slain, let all the people say, *Amen!*

REVIEW OF BOOKS.

TALPA; or the CHRONICLES OF A CLAY FARM. An Agricultural Fragment, by C. W. H. With an Introduction and Notes, by LEWIS F. ALLEN. Danforth, Hawley, & Co.: Buffalo. Price—cts.

Portions of the above work made its appearance several years since from week to week, in the *London Gardener's Chronicle*, and we well recollect the delight that the perusal of them gave us at the time, and the high opinion we formed of the unknown writer. For humor combined with good sense, shrewd observation, enlightened views, kindness towards the humble, poor, and ignorant, and keen satire upon the dog-in-the-manger management of some few large, and still larger-desiring land-owners of Great Britain, this little work has no equal, or indeed a fellow.

From a few hints dropped here and there in his book, we infer that the author had obtained some little practical or theoretical knowledge of agriculture in early life, probably during vacation from school; that he graduated at one of the universities, studied law, practised a short while, fell into ill health, made a long voyage to some distant country—India we presume—found the climate too hot and dry for him—did not like it—returned home—suddenly found himself in possession of “two hundred and fifty statute acres,” comprising one of the stiffest, wettest, and most unproductive clay farms of Old England, which its last tenant had abandoned cultivating in despair, as no longer enabling him to pay rent, or holding out the least hope of its ever being able to do so. With these “antecedents,” (as the word now-a-days is,) and under these *flattering auspices*, our author undertook the management of the farm himself, confessing to no more bookish or practical knowledge than his early classical studies in the the *Georgics* of Virgil, and a later intimacy with Cobbett's edition of Tull's works, and the brace of volumes of British Husbandry by the Society for the Diffusion of Useful Knowledge, the two latter forced upon him to read and re-read, on a long nine-month's voyage at sea, because he had no other book on board-ship to distract his *ennui*. With such preparation, but armed and equipped, as we suspect, with a strong, determinate will, he suddenly finds himself, one dreary November day, in a year which he chooses to distinguish with a blank, all alone, in the full possession and enjoyment of his clay-cold farm of “two hundred and fifty statute acres;” his only neighbors a set of deeply prejudiced in-the-old-system land-holders; his only companions some mathematical looking instruments, and a well-selected library of agricultural books he had the good sense to take to his solitude with him; and his only visitors the best agricultural periodicals of the day, which he had the still further good sense to subscribe for before leaving London.

All at once “the arrival of load after load of draining tiles, gave *parish notice* of the attempt to drain what antiquity”—in other words, prejudice, obstinacy, and stupidity—“had pronounced undrainable since the deluge.” With this prefatory remark, our author then proceeds:

But why can't it be drained? asked Greenhorns.

Because there is *no fall!* replied Collective Wisdom.

Has it ever been tried with a spirit-level? Now this was not a fair question. Spirit-levels (if they had any meaning or existence at all) were unintelligible, mathematical-looking instruments of purely professional nature, only seen, if ever, in the hands of road-surveyors' assistants and people of that sort. They had nothing whatever to do with farming. The question was unfair; it contained an ambiguous term.

Picture to yourself, however, the following conclusion from it. A bleak, foggy, November day; a long rambling space, marsh or meadow, as you might choose to call it, of some twenty acres in extent, and about the third part of a mile in length, with a narrow, thick plantation of rushes, sedges, and brook-lime, and such aquatic vegetation, threading its way in one long dank line from end to end, by such fantastic meanderings, that it looked as if the hidden channel of choked moisture it concealed had been making a continued series of experiments from time out of mind in search of an outlet; and after centuries of struggle and disappointment, had at length arrived, quite by accident, at a certain point at one end of the meadow, where you might see a pair of high mud boots standing, or rather soaking, with a man in them [meaning himself] peering through a telescope on three legs, as if he was watching for the total eclipse of a small boy that is to be seen, gradually sinking, about fifty yards off, and clutching in his agony a high staff by his side, figured as if for high and low water mark.

Presently the boots and the telescope, after various ineffectual efforts and heavings, succeed in striking their quarters; the boy after sundry spasmodic struggles, to correspond, achieves the same exploit; and the same scene as before occurs again some fifty yards further on, and again and again, at the same intervals, until they reach the other end of the meadow, and come plump upon the bands of a marshy pool some six acres in extent. On attaining this point, the telescope is suddenly shut up with a triumphant snap; its three legs jump into one; the dripping, shivering boy receives a tremendous, involuntary thwack on the back, and a FALL OF NINE FEET is declared, like a “dividend of ten per cent, and a balance over to go on with!”

Oh you primeval carp, pike, and eels! You little thought, on that day, how dead a fishing-rod, marked and measured inch by inch, threw its shadow across your ancient domain; little did your believed security dream of so new a monster, the angler upon three legs, that had measured the altitude of your downfall, and caught you all, if not upon one, upon *two cross hairs*.

Old fish or a new farm? Snipes or Swedeturnips? Which was it to be? There stood but this question between the will and the way to let the dry land appear. And who knows what Saurian monstrosities of a primeval age might be brought into daylight when this stagnation of waters was let loose, which had dammed up the moisture of so many broad acres from time immemorial? since little raised above the high-water mark of this pool, lay the sub-soil of the whole farm beyond and around it; and the lowest point of this meadow was the lowest point of all.

[Note by the American Editor.]

[A better illustration could not be given of the condition of innumerable tracts of low land interspersed throughout the cultivated districts of the United States. They may be found containing from five, to five hundred acres, and upward, and presenting to the eye all degrees of barrenness and pestilence, from the marsh, yielding coarse grass and shrub alders, to the bottomless morass dotted with pools of slimy, green, stagnant waters, inhabited by obscene reptiles. So that a sufficient fall can be obtained for the passage of superabundant water off on to a lower level, no obstacle need lie in the way of reclaiming any extent of such wastes into the most desirable soils imaginable. Agricultural

engineering was the inductive science applied to this experiment of our author; and this is a profession unfortunately too little understood and practised by the farmer. When that is made a profession by itself in this country, as it in time will be, we may expect a thorough exploration, and a consequent reclamation of the unsightly swamps which now so often disfigure the otherwise agreeable face of some of our best agricultural districts.]

The first of his trials and troubles of farming are thus humorously described. It seems he had told his head-drainer, after taking his levels, to dig the drains and lay the tile three feet deep, although practice and science have since shown that four feet would have been better. But the *oldest inhabitant* of that region had never thought or dreamed of a drain over one foot or eighteen inches deep; and as the head-man employed by our *green and bookish* farmer, asserted that he had “been a draining this *forty year* and more, and ought to know *summut* about it,” in the absence of his principal, he proceeds according to his own notion of the fitness of things. As soon as this is ascertained, the following brief and characteristic dialogue ensues between Mr. Head-Drainer, and Mr. Owner-of-the-Clay-Farm:

“But I *must* have it three feet deep!”

“Oh it's no use: it'll never drain so deep as that through this here clay!”

“But I tell you it *must* be! There can be no fall without it.”

“Well, I've been a draining this forty year, and I ought to know *summut* about it.”

From that moment I date my experience in the trials and troubles of farming; at that instant my eyes began to open to the true meaning of those “practical difficulties” which the uninitiated laugh at because they have never encountered them; and which the man of science despises who has said to steam, water, and machinery, “do this,” and they do it, but has never known what it is to try and guide out of the old track, a *mind* that has run in the same rut “this forty year and more.”

Of the kind, considerate, and comic manner that our author took to convince his head-man that he was wrong, and get him to acknowledge, “Well, I don't know but what you're right, sir,” we shall leave the reader to find out for himself at pages 41 and 42 of the work under review, and pass to his description of *Crosskill's Clod Crusher*, an implement that is just begun to be manufactured in our own country, and which we cannot too highly recommend to the cultivators of stiff clay soils:

Plowing, scuffling, and *leveling* were the order of the day, to the great scandal of the high ridges and their admirers; but on the ponderous and august entry of the clod-crusher, (a new monster in those days,) the first mentioned half of the field took leave of the other, and as each clod yielded up its individuality under the potent arguments of that most persuasive of instruments, the modern fallow went ahead of the ancient, and old Jethro Tull himself would have envied me the delight of seeing the work of comminution and perfect intermixture which its magic transit left behind it. Never was there such a sagacious or relentless old tyrant in dealing with a clod, as this same *Crosskill*, for so it shall be named, and right deservedly. If he can't crush it with his elephant foot, he takes it up *secundum artem*, as a mastiff would a bone, and gives it a *squeeze* with his iron teeth; and if that won't do, why then like a bull he tosses it over, and gores it with the next revolution. Clever must be the lump that, after one or two such embraces, escapes with its integrity less broken than to the exemplar of a handful of walnuts.

An experiment with guano:

"Shall we begin the ridging up for the Swedes to-morrow?" quoth the bailiff.

"Yes, one-half of it; the other half will be manured with guano."

"With what, sir?"

I will spare the reader the little scene of utter mystification which followed this announcement; the subject would be antiquated now; though many an amusing tale might doubtless be told of the first introduction of that "magic compound" upon the rural mind. In spite of smiles, winks, murmurings, shakes of the foreboding head, and other demonstrations, jocular and serious, the guano was at last duly sown, on the flat, a ton to five acres, and ridged in; the other five receiving a hundred cartloads of "the good old stuff," hauled, nearly half a mile, from the farm-yard, forked into the ridges, and covered in by a second ridging, as usual.

"A hundred to one upon the farm-yard manure!" of course, or any other amount of odds: all bidders, and only one moonstruck, misguided taker. It proved a miserable year for turnips generally. Every where "the fly" was omnipotent and omnivorant; the odds fell a little when the highly backed "farm-yard" ridges had to be sown a second time; but a crop came at last—about the size of apples.

And what on the guano?

From twenty to twenty-four tons, by weight, per acre. Not "the best," but "the only" crop to be seen in the neighborhood.

If people sometimes get less credit than their due in this world, they must not forget to balance the account with that which they get without deserving. The penguin of the vast Pacific was the wizard that had made this crop, not I; yet had the wise Chief Justice HALE been living, not all the waters of the Pacific would have saved me from roasting alive.

To learn the good effects of draining clay soils, what book-farming really is, and something of the kind, broad human heart of our author, read the following:

"Oh sir! It's a *fine* thing, is this here draining," said an old laborer, lifting up one heavy foot on the ledge of his spade, and composing himself with his elbow resting on the handle, to say a few words, before he put his jacket on and parted for the night.

"It's a fine thing, is this here draining; what a crop o' turnips 'll be here next autumn, I'll be bound to say!"

Of all things I like to catch the toiler in his spare but hearty moment of contemplation. The utterance of an abstract thought or reflection is never so precious as when it struggles for a moment from one whose frame is almost bent double with the hard practicality of daily labor. I prize it beyond words.

"It is a glorious thing," replied I; "the more I see of its effects, the more I like it, and the more I wonder how the land was ever worked before without it."

"Ah! well sir, 't was a different sort of a thing you see, 'twas like a different *trade*. Lor' blesh you, I remember the time when after wheat-sowing was done, (and sometimes there was many fields, so as it could n't be got in at all, when it came a wet season,) the farmer's work was over like, for the year. There was nothing to be done but sit at home and go to sleep till the frost came, and the dung-cart would be got a-field. It was bad work, sir, for the laborer, bad work, when he was turned off for the winter, and had to look out for a bit o' hedging or ditching somewhere else, miles off perhaps, to get a bit o' bread by."

"Well, we've changed that however; I think I may truly say that every year, to me, winter has been a busy time."

"And it *will* be too! There 'll be no standing still for winter work again on this here farm, as long as it ever lies out o' doors, let who will farm it! for all so many hedges are grubbed up. How the turnips *have* grow'd, to be sure, on that piece as we drained last year! I never saw

ship [sheep] look better; and I remember when there was n't a ship on the farm, or a turnip on the ground to feed 'em with."

"D'ye think that piece will stand the treading of the sheep?"

"Bear it! Lor' blesh you, it'll come up as mellow as a garden, I'll war'n' it, in the spring; it treads a little leathery in some places in the middle o' the lands, but that'll all come right after another crop; *it don't always come at once after draining; every year tells on it.*"

"You think that really is the case?"

"Think! I *knows* it, sir. I likes it every year the better arter the draining; but I *do* think, (you'll excuse me,) that you goes a little too dip with the tiles; it *is* no use going so dip into the clay."

"What *three feet*! Why they laugh at me for draining so shallow! If you were to see what they say in those papers, [meaning the Agricultural periodicals,] I bring into the field sometimes in a morning, you wouldn't call this deep."

"Oh never you listen to what them there papers says, they know nothing in the 'varsal world about it. They beent practical farmers as writes that stuff; none o' them as writes knows any thing about farming."

"D'ye think not? Well, but suppose I were to write about the fields we have drained, and send it to some of those editor men to print and put in the paper, would n't it do for somebody else to read; would n't be as true *after it was in print* as it was before, when we were doing it?"

"Oh that's a different thing, that is; 'cause of course they'd believe what you say—"

"Well now, suppose I were to put it as a sort of history of this farm, *as it was*, and *as it is*, a sort of chronicle, call it the 'Chronicle of a Clay Farm'—?"

"Oh that's capital! Lor' how I should like to see it; that 'ould be summut like, that would! none o' them there long words about chemist and druggist and doctors' stuff, as if farmers was a parcel o' old women, like my poor old Missus—oh! thank you kindly sir, for what you sent her, it did her a sight o' good, she was able to eat her vittles better arterwards than she's done for many a day—"

"But you wont believe I can doctor the field and give that an appetite, eh, Dobson?"

"Well I don't know; I ben't no scollard, sir; one thing however, you've *tapped the dropsy on it*, for one thing, that's sartin!"

"And you'll believe *the other* when you have seen it. Well, good night, Dobson!"

And with a hearty "good night" in return, trudges poor old Dobson home from his hard and wet day's work, with none the heavier heart or less elastic tread for a few cheery words to enliven the dull blank of the body's labor, and illuminate for a moment that hateful chasm that lies too broad and forbidden between employer and employed, in civilized England.

When will this stain depart from our land? When will that moody silence and reserve that disconnect rank from rank, and class from class, and man from his brother man, cease to shut us up from each other's view, like sealed packets of humanity, destined and directed "private and confidential" each to its own special clique and circle, locking up the cheap yet gladdening benevolence of words from all "below" it.

If man, vain aspiring man, did but truly measure the resilient influences for good or ill, by which his own existence is surrounded; if he did but know the rich freight of happiness and of positive blessing to his poorer and humbler brethren, which he bears within him in the mere gift of language; if instead of reserving all his soft words for the rich, and the caressing of the tongue for those who least require or value it, he would stoop to remark its instant effect, and *permanent influence* for good, on those who seldomest receive it, how changed would be the working out of that strange problem of society which is ever leaving the largest numbers most uncared for, their power and influence only felt *when it is dangerous*.

Of all the sweeteners of human toil, of all the motive powers that give alacrity to the hand or foot, readiness to the will, intelligence to mind and purpose, the quickest and the most enduring in result is the kind word spoken in season. How good is it! exclaims the wisest of the sons of men. The most boorish obduracy melts at last under its repeated influence, though hard and rough at first as the unsmelted ore. Horse-power is convenient of appliance, wind and water power are cheap, the power of steam is great, the sordid power of money is greater still; but of all the powers that be, to rid the tiny weed, or fell the stubborn oak, the greatest agricultural power is that which can gear on *mind to matter*—the word and look of kindness.

We should like now to quote the author's "private notions on cultivation," beginning at page 195, for we began to entertain the same views, in a measure, just twelve years ago the past summer, and have frequently hinted at them in the former volumes of the *Agriculturist*; but having made so many extracts already from the "Chronicles" before us, it would scarcely be just to the publishers of the work to continue them; we therefore forbear for the present, trusting that our readers will forthwith become the owners of a copy, and peruse it for themselves.

The tasteful manner in which the publishers have got up the little volume, the clear white paper they have given it, and the large type in which it is set, are highly commendable. It is sufficiently elegant to adorn the Farmer's parlor center-table; and why should this not be the case with all agricultural works? Is not the farmer entitled to as handsome and tasteful things as the merchant, the lawyer, and other classes of society?

The notes which the editor has appended to this work, and the prize essays on draining, by Messrs. JOHNSTON and YEOMANS, all of whom are extensive practical cultivators of clay soils in the Western part of the State of New-York, give additional value to the book, and make it more useful to the American farmer.

For the American Agriculturist.

BRIEF NOTES ON SHORT TEXTS.

"LET THE COBBLER STICK TO HIS LAST."

VERY true, so long as the *last* is worth sticking to. But in this wide country, where so many avenues are daily opening to enterprise, the last is quite apt to be thrown under the bench, and the lapstone and hammer to follow it, by those who fancy they can do better than wield them. The proverb, however homely it be, is most applicable to the farmer. He, of all others, should not be above his business. Yet nothing is more common than to see him, when he has a little money laid by, invest it in railroad stocks, banks, or other things foreign to his vocation, when, by draining his wet lands, giving his fields higher cultivation, improving his buildings, implements, or stock, his capital would earn him twice the income in the increased production of his acres, and remain under his own control, instead of under the control of others. Don't you know, my good friend, that your labor of plowing, harrowing, sowing, harvesting, and threshing a crop of ten, fifteen, or twenty bushels per acre, is just as great as that of double or treble the quantity? Millions of acres of land in England and Scotland, and thousands of acres in America, have been doubled in their annual crops by the aid of draining alone,

at a cost of less than one-half their previous selling value; thus by an investment of fifty per cent. in the value of their farms, the product has been increased one to two hundred per cent. Now what speculation so good as that; what so certain, and what more gratifying? No increase of taxes, no additional labor, and yet double the revenue. So with better cattle, sheep, pigs, and horses. So, too, with convenient buildings and implements; and to these may be added orchards and fruits. The want of capital is the great bar to success with thousands of our farmers. They freely loan their money at six and seven per cent. interest, and frequently at great risks, when, by investing it on their farms in improved agriculture, the smallest amount so invested would undoubtedly pay them twenty.

No, fellow-farmers, a truer adage does not exist, so far as your calling is concerned, than the uncouth words at the head of this article.

A COUNTRYMAN.

For the American Agriculturist.

POTATOES IN FROZEN GROUND.

YOUR correspondent J. W. BRIGGS, seems in doubt whether potatoes will be fit for seed, if they have been frozen in the ground during winter. Doubtless they would not be as good for cooking as those dug at the proper time, unless the winter was very dry; but last year I raised a volunteer crop from potatoes left in the ground, and I am certain—quite certain—they were frozen. The potatoes were not over three inches under ground, and the frost penetrated at least six inches during the winter, and we had scarcely any snow to protect potatoes or any thing else. It is a common thing to see a volunteer crop from potatoes thus left in the ground over winter, and in ground too that had not been plowed over four inches, while the frost penetrated at least six inches, as is common with us.

It is not too late for your correspondent to try the experiment. He may yet put some potatoes in the ground to the depth of two or three inches, and they will surely freeze at that depth in New-York State between this and spring, and then he will thus be able to test their merits as seed potatoes, and remove all doubts.

P. S. BROKAW.

Middlebush, Somerset co., N.J., Jan. 3, 1853.

FLAX CULTURE IN THE WEST.—Professor Wilson, of England, who has traveled through the Western States the past summer, estimates the present crop of flax grown in these States at 200,000 to 300,000 tons, the product of as many acres of land. The yield of seed from this crop—for which it is mainly grown—will not fall short of 2,500,000 bushels, worth at the present prices not less than \$3,250,000. The straw, which is turned to but little account, if prepared for the spindle, would be worth at least \$5,000,000 more. Since the invention of Mr. Claussen for the preparation of flax cotton, great improvements have been made in the process of steeping the straw as a substitute for rotting. That of Mr. Buchanan, of Glasgow, appears to be the most perfect, by which a ton of the straw can be carried through all the various processes and come out ready for the spindle in the short space of twelve hours, and at comparatively a trifling cost.

A company in Philadelphia are now engaged in the erection of machinery for preparing flax by Buchanan's process.

The Hon. H. L. Ellsworth, of Ind., has been engaged for a year or two past in raising flax

extensively, and is commencing the preparation of the fiber by some of the newly discovered processes.—*Louisville Journal.*

FARMING ABROAD.

AGRICULTURE is looking up. It is a common remark that it has already secured the politicians, and made all the public beggars respect its claims. At home it may receive any favors it demands in earnest, and it is coming also to stand excellently well abroad. The fact that the farming interest is seldom forgotten in making up the news from any country now-a-days is in point.

Whether or not California was a desert, was a much mooted question while it was knocking at the Union's gate for admittance. The California papers are leaving no doubt upon the subject now. They vaunt the fecundity of its soil daily, and instance such rich returns for the small labors of their husbandmen, as do not leave us at liberty to question that farming is profitable there. The fable of the old man, who on his death-bed, told his sons to dig the field well, for gold was hidden in it, is as applicable in its figurative sense as its literal one, even there.

Oregon, where labor fetches good prices—though not, of course, the prices that obtain in California or Australia—where the farmers lazily harrow in their seed wheat two or three years successively upon the same piece, without once ploughing, and yet average twenty-five or thirty bushels to the acre, in most other grains, and in fruit, responds right handsomely to the husbandman's efforts. The harvest of the past season was abundant; and were it not that thousands pour in to consume their products, she would be a seller rather than a buyer among the Territories.

The Hawaiians, such of them as are not down with the small-pox, or busy tinkering the running-gear of the State, turn with unusual interest to develop the extravagant wealth of their soil. They are experimenting with the cultivation of new plants and fruits, and devising means to stimulate to increased growth the old grains. The indigo plant, from the rapidity with which it spreads when once rooted, begins to be cultivated, and peaches of a fine quality, a new fruit for those fields, have lately been raised. Judge SHAW has imported a good grist-mill all the way from Boston and the State of Maine, which will soon be in operation in Honolulu, and astonish the natives with its superfine wheat and Graham-grits, rye flour, Indian meal, and hominy, for it is prepared to "turn to dust" all fashions of grain and corn. Bring the dusky natives to eating hominy, and give them a good breed of pigs for ham, and we will venture them in three years too good fellows to consent to be protected by the Russian Czar, or insulted by a French Emperor. The missionaries taught them to mend their roads with their gods as with so much rubbish; commercial intercourse taught them to put on skirted coats, and stove-pipe hats, even if they had no pantaloon to keep them in countenance; agriculture and a grist-mill will give them good Christian bread and cakes for food, and *via* the digestive organs, make sensible people of them. Farming is coming into vogue along the South American Pacific Coast. More wheat than ever before was sown last year throughout Chili, and the crops promise to be heavier than ever before.

Farmers may well afford to hold up their heads in consideration of the honor the world holds them in, and certainly, in consideration of the cash that jingles in their pockets, to have their own way in most matters.—*N. Y. Times.*

OLD TREE.—The editor of the *Litchfield Enquirer* has received apples from a tree that was brought from Hartford by one of the first settlers of the town. The tree has borne apples about one hundred and thirty years. It now measures fourteen feet round the trunk. It bore twenty bushels the past season. The fruit is a sweet winter apple.—*Hartford Courant.*

SCHOOL REMINISCENCE.

THE following, from the pen of the Rev. HENRY WARD BEECHER, appeared in a recent number of the *New-York Independent*, and most graphically and truthfully portrays what we have seen and experienced. It seems to have been written expressly for the old school-house where we in our earlier days sat for six long hours daily, while being "educated." Well do we remember the backless seats formed of rough slabs, with four wooden legs, constructed after the most approved method for increasing the length of their muscular counterparts, since these were kept on the continual stretch to reach the floor. How absurd it really appears when we think of it, to send restless, growing children to the prison school-house, to be kept quiet for 3600 minutes on such seats and for what? Why to be called out for four to six minutes—one-sixtieth part of the school day at most—to go over a routine of a, b, abs. Let every one read this faithful picture, and inquire whether there are not now in his own vicinity, school-houses (?) to which this description will literally apply.

It was our misfortune, in boyhood, to go to a District School. It was a little square pine building, blazing in the sun, upon the highway, without a tree for a shade in sight near it; without bush, yard, fence or circumstance to take off its bare, cold, hard, hateful look. Before the door, in winter, was the pile of wood for fuel, and in summer, there were all the chips of the winter's wood. In winter, we were squeezed into the farthest corner, among little boys, who seemed to be sent to school merely to fill up the chinks between the bigger boys. Certainly we were never sent for any such absurd purpose as an education. There were the great scholars, the school in winter was for them, not for us piccaninies. We were read and spelt twice a day, unless something happened to prevent, which did happen about every other day. For the rest of the time we were busy in keeping still. And a time we always had of it. Our shoes always would be scraping on the floor, or knocking the shins of urchins who were also being "educated." All of our little legs together, (poor, tired, nervous, restless legs, with nothing to do,) would fill up the corner with such a noise, that every ten or fifteen minutes, the master would bring down his two-foot hickory ferrule on the desk with a clap that sent shivers through our hearts, to think how that would have felt, if it had fallen somewhere else; and then, with a look that swept us all into utter extremity of stillness, he would cry, "Silence! in that corner!" It would last for a few minutes; but, little boys' memories are not capacious. Moreover, some of the boys had mischief, and some had mirthfulness, and some had both together. The consequence was that just when we were the most afraid to laugh, we saw the most comical things. Temptations, which we could have vanquished with a smile out in the free air, were irresistible in our little corner, where a laugh and a spank were very apt to woo each other. So, we would hold on, and fill up; and others would hold on and fill up too; till by-and-by the weakest would let go a mere whiff of a laugh, and then down went all the precautions, and one went off, and then another, and another, touching the others off like a pack of fire crackers! It was in vain to deny it. But as the process of snapping our heads, and pulling our ears went on with primitive sobriety, we each in turn, with tearful eyes and blubbering lips, declared "we didn't mean to," and that was true; and that we "wouldn't do so any more," and that was a lie, however unintentional; for we never failed to do just so again, and that about once an hour all day long.

Besides this, our principal business was to

shake and shiver at the beginning of the school for very cold; and to sweat and stew for the rest of the time, before the fervid glances of a great box iron stove, red-hot. There was one great event of horror and two of pleasure; the first was the act of going to school, comprehending the leaving off play, the face-washing and clothes-inspecting, the temporary play-spell before the master came, the out-cry "there he is; the master is coming," the hurly-burly rush, and the noisy clattering to our seats. The other two events of pleasure, were the play-spell and the dismissal. Oh dear, can there be any thing worse for a lively, muscular, mirthful, active little boy, than going to a winter district school? Yes. Going to a summer district school! There is no comparison. The one is the Miltonic depth, below the deepest depth.

A woman kept the school, sharp, precise, unsympathetic, keen and untiring. Of all ingenious ways of fretting little boys, doubtless, her ways were the most expert. Not a tree to shelter the house, the sun beat down on the shingles and the clapboards till the pine knots shed pitchy tears; and the air was redolent of hot pine wood smell. The benches were slabs with legs in them. The desks were slabs at an angle, cut, hacked, scratched; each year's addition of jack-knife literature overlaying its predecessor, until in it there were cuttings and carvings two or three inches deep. But if we cut a morsel, or stuck in pins or pinched off splinters, the little sharp-eyed mistress was on hand, and one look of her eye was worse than a sliver in our foot, and one nip of her fingers was equal to a jab of a pin; for we had tried both.

We envied the flies—merry fellows; bouncing about, tasting that apple skin, patting away at that crumb of bread; now out the window, then in again; on your nose, on neighbor's cheek, off to the very school-ma'am's lips; dodging her slap, and then letting off a real round and round buz, up, down, this way, that way, and every way. Oh, we envied the flies more than any thing except the birds. The windows were so high that we could not see the grassy meadows; but we could see the tops of distant trees, and the far, deep, boundless blue sky. There flew the robins; there went the bluebirds; and there went we. We followed that old Polyglott, and skunk-blackbird, and heard him describe the way they talked at the winding up of the Tower of Babel. We thanked every meadow-lark that sung on, rejoicing as it flew. Now and then a chipping-bird would flutter on the very window-sill, turn its little head side-wise and peer in on the medley of boys and girls. Long before we knew it was in Scripture, we sighed: "Oh that we had the wings of a bird"—we would fly away, and be out of this hateful school. As for learning, the sum of all that we ever got at a district school, would not cover the first ten letters of the alphabet. One good, kind, story-telling, Bible-rehearsing aunt at home, with apples and ginger-bread premiums, is worth all the school-ma'ams that ever stood by to see poor little fellows roast in those boy-traps called district schools.

But this was thirty-five years ago. Doubtless it is all changed long since then. We mean inside; for certainly there are but few school houses that we have seen in New-England, whose outside was much changed. There is a beautiful house in Salisbury, Conn., just on the edge of the woods. It is worth going miles to see how a school-house ought to look. But generally the barrenest spot is chosen, the most utterly homely building is erected, without a tree or shrub; and then those that can't do better, pass their pilgrimage of childhood education there.

We are prejudiced of course. Our views and feelings are not to be trusted. They are good for nothing except to show what an effect our school-days left upon us. We abhor the thought of a school. We do not go into them if we can avoid it. Our boyhood experience has pervaded our memory with such images, as breed a repugnance to district schools, which we fear we

shall not lay aside, until we lay aside every thing in the grave. We are sincerely glad that it is not so with every body. There are thousands who revert with pleasure to those days. We are glad of it. But we look on such with astonishment.

OUT-DOORS AT IDLEWILD;

OR, COUNTRY-LIFE WITHIN CITY REACH.

THE *Home Journal*, published in this city, by MESSRS. MORRIS & WILLIS, is one of the most agreeable and best conducted weekly papers which our country affords. Under the head of *Out-Doors at Idlewild*, Mr. WILLIS has been giving, the past year, and still continues, a series of rural sketches, gossiping and descriptive, which we have weekly glanced over with no little pleasure.

The following is an extract from his description of a winter day's ride among the Hudson River Highlands, between Newburg and West Point; in company with the village blacksmith of Idlewild—or rather the town of Caldwell, just below Newburg—the said blacksmith being, like many a hard worker in iron, a shrewd, sensible, and instructive companion.

The inhabitants of these Many-Lake Alps are principally woodsmen. They farm but little, even where they have strips of meadow on the water-courses which traverse their land. With the state of their mountain roads, they prefer crops to which customers help themselves, or which can both grow and find legs to walk to market—cattle to graze, sheep to browse, and colts to board (at pasture) for a dollar a month. It is not uncommon to let horses run wild through the winter, and they thrive very well upon the mosses of the rocks and the bark of the sapling elms. The sapling hickories, from being so saleable as hoop-poles, are jocularly called "the mountain-wheat." Perhaps the stranger is most astonished at the tracks over which these people drive their teams, with a cord of wood at a load. A rock of the size of a nail-keg or flour barrel is no obstruction to a wheel. The wagons are so put together as to work pliantly like timber baskets—though, how their horses' legs and shoulders stand the jerking and the violent and perpetual twisting, I could less easily understand. At five dollars an acre, the average freehold price of the land in this region, and, with the four dollars which they promptly get for the cord of wood which it is an easy day's work to draw to West Point or Fort Montgomery, (their two nearest villages,) a mountain farm is soon paid for, even without stock-grazing. The larger wood renews itself every twenty years, and it is very much bettered, meantime, by the constant thinnings of the prolific and profitable hoop-saplings. There are various incidentals by which the children can turn a penny; such as cranberries, hickory-nuts, chesnuts, black-walnuts, and wild-cherries; and, as we seemed to start up partridges every where in riding along, and wild rabbits are "as plenty as blackberries," there can be no lack of good feeding hereabouts—to say nothing of the lakes full of perch and pickerel within sound of every man's dinner-horn.

And now, (to digress a moment,) will the reader please take the above statistically true picture of a land of easy livelihood and romantic beauty, and place it alongside of the harrowing descriptions of hunger and lack of employment among the emigrants and laborers, given us daily by the newspapers of a city distant but three hours by steamboat or railroad? The difficulty is not in an impassable gulf of "no money to make a beginning." All through this region, throughout the year, it is next to impossible to get "hands" enough, (for the iron mines, clearing, and other labors,) at a dollar a day—an easy opening for an industrious man to lay up money; while, once known enough to be trusted, he could readily get credit for the necessary land

and implements to make a beginning. But no—there are two other difficulties. It is too lonely for the Irishman. And neither the Irishman nor the German can be his own wheelwright, carpenter, blacksmith, doctor, cobbler, tailor and schoolmaster—as the Yankee can, and is. The lack of society in the mountains, and the lack of American omni-cute-ness in the settler, are the two difficulties. With the welcome given to my companion, (at whose forge, of course, every man for twenty miles around had looked in,) I saw something of the home of one of the Yankee mountain farmers, on our route. Just inside the barn-yard through which we entered, stood the ox-frame where he shoes his own oxen. A new wood-wagon stood near by, just finished by his boys—one specimen of the many kinds of "jobs" that they can do. The entry was ornamented with a set of narrow shelves, upon which were arranged specimens of all the minerals of the mountains round about. A most plentiful dinner, to which we were cordially invited, smoked on the table. In conversation, dress, kind and intelligent politeness, and personal dress and bearing, this farmer's grown-up family—products of this spot of his own earning—were fine specimens of the human race. I asked the hale and vigorous father whether he ever found it lonely. "Oh," he said, "we don't care to be any more crowded with neighbors."

APPLES IN WESTERN NEW-YORK.—The Orleans *American* states that the firm of Howard & Thurston of that county have shipped this season over 4000 bbls. of apples, and about 2000 bushels of dried fruit. About 8000 bbls. of apples have been shipped from that village this season, and about 4000 bushels dried fruit. Not far from 25,000 barrels of apples have been shipped from the county, and between 12,000 and 13,000 bushels of dried fruit.

PRAIRIE PLOW.—Gardner A. Bruce, of Mechanicsburg, Ill., has invented an improved Prairie Plow, on which he has applied for a patent. His improvements consist in connecting the axles of the wheels upon the beams, loosely with it and the adjusting lever, by means of a jointed revolving rod, over which the beam can be adjusted freely, and upon which the adjusting lever is sustained. This rod passes loosely up through the beam, being connected to the adjusting lever by a loose joint, which allows the axle to have the necessary movements in the path of a horizontal circle, independent of the beam and lever, while changing the line of draught or turning curves.—*Scientific American*.

BEE HIVE.—Dewalt Fouse, of Williamsburg, Penn., has invented an improvement in Bee Hives, consisting in placing three sections on top of each other and holding them together by ledges serving to render the joints between them water-tight. The bottom boards of the lower section are inclined so as to allow the dirt and refuse of the hive to be more readily discharged. The sections are separated by slats from each other, the top section consisting of four small boxes having no bottoms. Either section can thus be removed independently of the other. The inventor has taken steps to obtain a patent.—*Ibid*.

A RELIC OF A PAST AGE.—There is now residing on the place of J. DUDLEY DAVIS, Esq., in Scott county, Ky., a free woman of color, whose age, from reliable sources, is 120 years. She was grown at the time of Braddock's defeat, in 1755, which she well remembers. She frequently washed the clothes of the "Father of his country" prior to her emigrating from the "Old Dominion" to this State.

It may gratify the curiosity of the curious to see this relic of the 18th century, and one whose age equals that of the great law-giver of Israel, though unlike him, her eyesight is dim, and her natural force abated.—*Frankfort Commonwealth*.

Miscellaneous.

DEUTSCHE ADVERTISEMENT.

BY C. TOAKS WOLFE.

MINE horse is shloped, and I'm avraid
He has' been daken, or shtolen, or shtrayed;
Mine pig plack horse, dat looks to shpry,
'Pout fourteen oder twelve hands high.
He has been got shust four feets plack,
Mit shtriped spots all down his pack,
'Two legs pefore and two pehind—
Pe shure you keep all dis in mind.

He's plack all over, dat is true—
All but his vace, and dat's plack, too;
He drots and ganters, vaux and paces,
And outworks Pelzebug in draces;
And ven he gallops in der shreet,
He vaux upon his legs and feet;
Von leg goes down, and den de oder,
Und always follows von anoder;
He has two ears shtruck 'pon his head,
Bote of dem's neider white nor red,
But bote alike, shust von, you see,
Ish placker den de oder pe;
He's got two eyes dat looks von vay,
Only he lost von toder day.
And ven you vish to dake a ride,
Shump on his back on tudder side,
And it is shust as gospel drue,
De eye vat's plind vill not see you.
His tail's pehind him, long and shleek,
Only I cut him off last week,
And derefore 'tis not any more
As half so longer as pefore.
He cocks his ear, and looks so gay,
And vill not shart and run away;
But ven he's scar't he make von shpring,
And shumps about like every ding;
He rides apout mit shaiz and cart,
I never see such horse for shmart;
And sometimes he go on de road,
Mitout nobody for his load,
But pag of corn, and takes de track,
Mit little poy upon his pack.
Mine horse ish not so very old—
Not haff so young as ven he's foaled—
And ven he gallop, rear, or shump,
His head come all pefore him plump,
And den his dail goes all pehind;
Put sometimes, ven he takes a mind,
Gets mad, and durns all round, be shure,
Vy den his dail goes all pefore.

Whoever vill mine plack horse got,
Shall pay ten dollars on de shpot;
And if he prings ter tief alive,
Vy den he pays me twenty-five;
Mitout no questions ax'd py me,
By mine advertisement you'll see,
I live out here by Schneider Gap,
Near Schtöffelunk's.

TO MAIDENS ON THE LOOK OUT FOR MATES.—If a man wipes his feet on the door-mat before coming into the room, you may be sure he will make a good domestic husband. If a man in snuffing the candles, snuffs them out, you may be sure he will make a stupid husband. If a man puts his handkerchief on his knees whilst taking his tea, you may be sure he will make a prudent husband. In the same way, always mistrust the man who will not take the last piece of toast or Sally Lunn, but prefers waiting for the next warm batch. It is not unlikely he will make a greedy, selfish husband, with whom you will enjoy no "brown" at dinner, no crust at tea, no peace whatever at home. The man, my dears, who wears goloshes, and is careful about

wrapping himself up well before venturing into the night air, not unfrequently makes a good invalid husband, that mostly stops at home, and is easily comforted with slops. The man who watches the kettle, and prevents it from boiling over, will not fail, my dears, in his married state, in exercising the same care, in always keeping the pot boiling. The man who doesn't take tea, ill-treats the cat, takes snuff, and stands with his back to the fire, is a brute, whom I would not advise you, my dears, to marry upon any consideration, either for love or money, but most decidedly not for love. But the man who, when tea is over, is discovered to have had none, is sure to make the best husband. Patience like his deserves being rewarded with the best of wives, and the best of mothers-in-law. My dears, when you meet with such a man, do your utmost to marry him. In the severest winter he would not mind going to bed first.—*Punch's Pocket-book.*

EXPERIENCE OF A COUNTRY HOUSEKEEPER.

BY HATTIE HOMESPUN.

MESSRS. EDITORS:—I have noticed your invitation to your lady readers to fill up the missing pages of the "Journal of a Farmer's Wife." The invitation is rather too general to meet the wishes of ladies, for, you know, they are fond of particular attentions. But the pleasure I have derived from the discontinued journal leads me to forego the usual specialities on such occasions, and to offer my mite to your ladies' department. This turning one's household affairs inside-out is delicate business, but then it is the best way to initiate young housekeepers into the mysteries of domestic economy; and it is with the hope of saying something profitable to young wives and mothers among your readers, that I send you these experiences of the holiday-week.

HATTIE HOMESPUN.

Monday, December 26th.—Oh, what a disappointment for the children, Christmas on Sunday, and no Santa Claus! But Sabbath is over now; the stockings were examined at an early hour this morning, and the many presents have afforded amusement for one day at least—about as long as they usually last with the little folks. We had our *Christmas turkey* on Saturday, and this has been wash-day, as usual, in spite of presents and "wish you merry Christmas." Rather more to do than usual to-day—feel tired and dispirited with the drudgery of housekeeping. Wonder how one poor little woman can accomplish all she wishes; how she can be *au fait*—in parlor and kitchen, take all the necessary stitches, and improve her mind at the same time.

Tuesday, 27th.—Terrible wind all day; yet ventured out to our maternal meeting, and was not blown away after all. Was very much engaged in cutting out a coat for Willie, and did not like to leave it, but feel amply paid for the effort. Was rebuked for my want of faith by finding so many there; gained new courage to persevere in faithfulness to the little ones God has given us. There is a prospect of winter in good earnest now; we have had none as yet. I rather dread snow, though Willie has long been watching for it, that the famous sled may be brought out from its summer hiding-place. While he indulges in many anticipations of fun, and sliding down hill, I think of the boots full of snow, the wet stockings, and frosted feet; but boys *will be boys*, and I know not that it is wise to shield them too tenderly. They seem to prize fun most that costs them something.

Wednesday, 28th.—Rose this morning feeling blue, and headache; wholly unfit to commence operations in the sewing line, so my good husband proposed an early dinner, and a ride five miles distant, to visit some relatives. This proposition pleased me, and I caught at it eagerly, notwithstanding visions of certain pigs that were to be killed the next day. I thought I would have one holiday before plunging into the mysteries of sausage-making and lard-trying. About one o'clock, my husband, sister Annie, Willie, and myself packed into our little carriage, and good old Kate bore us on as briskly as if we had been fewer in number. It was a splendid afternoon. We found friends well, had a pleasant visit, a nice tea, and arrived home about six o'clock; found Bridget full of business in the kitchen, little Jamie fast asleep in bed, and grandmother rejoicing over the arrival of brother John in our absence. Indulged in the luxury of reading most of the evening, and feel bright and happy—ready for any duty on the morrow. So much for change of scene; nothing like it when one gets moping, disgusted with life's duties. We generally return thinking our *own home* is about the happiest spot in the world, after all.

Thursday, 29th.—"O mother, it snows!—Father, father, just look out of the window, and see how deep it is; won't you give me a sled-ride?" were the exclamations which caused my sleepy eyes to open this morning; and, sure enough, windows and all were packed tight with snow—our first snow. We took our ride just in time. I thought to myself, *grand!* a stormy day, and I'll accomplish wonders with the needle; so I hurried through the every-day morning labors, and sister Annie and I were soon seated, needles in hand. Many hands make light work, and we have accomplished all we hoped to, to-day. We are expecting the said pigs to-morrow, and I feel as though I could take hold of the sausages and head-cheese with good-will, having had such a fine day for sewing. It has snowed hard all day, and has grown cold so fast, that we can but just keep warm, close by the fire, while my sage husband, who is doing a little writing yonder, approaches this side of the room occasionally to warm up his *fingers*—to say nothing of his ideas. There, he is fairly frozen out, and Annie and I will have a woman's chat over this bright fire.

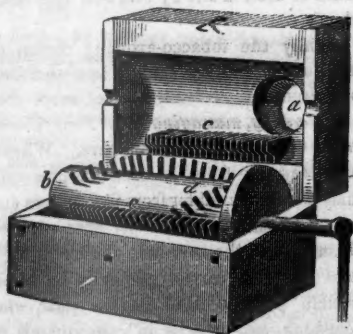
Friday, 30th.—Still storming, and awfully cold; plenty of business out of doors, shoveling paths and sweeping off snow. In-doors, still intent on sewing, as it is entirely too cold to think of cutting up the pigs—which have been killed—until they are thawed a little. Bridget has managed to clean the heads and feet, and put them soaking for head-cheese, and my part is deferred until to-morrow. An old friend of my husband dropped in to dinner, relieving the monotony of the day; spent some little time in playing the agreeable to him, and have passed a pleasant and profitable day, but am weary and too dull to write more.

Saturday, 31st.—Stirring times in the household this morning. This is the day for sausage making; for here in the country the saying of a certain gourmand, who affected this article, "Sassengers is good if one knows as who made them," is entirely inapplicable. We all know *that*; for the housewife who should not preside over this operation, in person, would lose caste at once. They must all pass through her fingers, and the youngest tattler in the house knows

who makes his sausages. Poor unfortunates in the city, doomed to eat nameless meat under the name of sausages, I wonder if they do not envy us the privilege of our home manufacture? Bridget was up betimes, and we breakfasted at seven, which is *early* in these short days. Husband always cuts up his pork; for the vain man thinks he can do it a little better than the hired butcher; and, as we never engage that operator for the job, his opinion of his own prowess is unimpeachable. After cutting, the pieces are assorted. The hams and shoulders are to be cured for bacon, the leaf fat and the flabby pieces are to be tried for lard, the head, ears, and feet are for head-cheese, (or souse,) the spare-ribs, and "wood-chuck pieces," as we call them, for roasting, the joles and lean pieces along the back, for sausages, and the remainder for salting. He thinks this the best division that can be made of the porker's spoils. It saves the shoulder-pieces, usually cut up for sausage-meat, substituting the joles, which are often smoked, but rarely eaten with good relish, having too large a proportion of fat, and uses up the lean pieces sometimes appropriated to roasting, but which often spoil unless given away. Here he comes with the meat and chopping-tray; for this is an age of woman's rights, and it is her privilege to have the help of brawny arms to work up this meat. If any housekeeper considers this an invasion of her domain, I have no disposition to quarrel with her; but in these parts we use a little discrimination in the assertion of our rights.

"What sort of a thing is this, husband? I thought you were to chop the meat." "You are behind the age this time, HATTIE. The times are past when wise men spend a whole day in cutting up a few pounds of meat."

"This is one of the patent sausage-cutters," said he, "which I just brought from an agricultural warehouse, and it will cut up nicely 40 or 50 pounds, or more, of mince-meat in an hour, or 700 or 800 pounds in a day, with this arm to turn it;" and suiting the action to the word, he gave the crank a few vigorous revolutions. The implement introduced with this flourish, is a nice little thing, scarcely as large as my work-box on the table, being not more than a foot long, and six or eight inches square. It opens like a work-box, and inside is a cylinder with square-cornered iron pins, driven into it in spiral rows; the lower part of the box is filled with sharp knives. The meat is put in through a little hopper placed upon one end of the cover, and as the crank is turned, it is caught by the pins and carried between the knives, and soon



drops out at the bottom of the other end all cut up finely. If you print this, Mr. Editor, won't you just put in here a cut of this labor-saving implement, if you can procure one?

"There, wife, is your meat, 'fine as a fifty' in just thirty minutes," said he, as he gave the crank its last turn. I had them all seasoned and put up by two o'clock. My recipe for seasoning is this:

Take one-third fat and two-thirds lean pork, nicely chopped or cut up; and then, to every twelve pounds of meat, add twelve large, even spoonfuls of pounded salt, nine of sifted sago, and six of sifted black pepper. Some like a little summer savory.

I think the best way to preserve this meat, when prepared, is to pack it tight in small tin cans, holding a quart each, or stone jars. If the cans, or jars, have tight-fitting covers, I seal them with wax or gum shellac; if not, I pour a thin cake of suet over them, which excludes the air entirely, and preserves the meat until spring, if kept in a cold place. When I wish to cook them, I make them into small balls for the table. I have found this a perfectly satisfactory way, and much less trouble than the old-fashioned plan of stuffing the casings.

Having finished the sausage-meat, we took dinner. I rested a while, and then seasoned and put away my head-cheese, which Bridget had boiled and boned so nicely. This has simply to be boiled until the bones are loose, and the meat entirely tender. After picking out all the bones and cutting it up pretty fine—pouring off the water—I season with salt, sage, and pepper, till it suits my taste, and then pack it tight in a deep pan, while hot. When cold it will cut in nice slices to fry for breakfast, and will keep sometime in cold weather. There is a satisfaction in completing a dreaded task, therefore I feel happy, though weary. The closing hours of the day remind me that the year is closing also—and I pause to ponder. Am I a year wiser, a year better, as well as a year older?

For the American Agriculturist.

RECIPE FOR WASHING.—No. 2.

MR. EDITOR:—My wife was very much interested in the Washing Recipe published in No. 16 of your paper; but she, in common with some hundred or two others in New-York city, thinks she has a more excellent way. The originator of the process is unknown, and I have not seen the recipe published. It is as follows:

The night before washing day put the clothes to soak in cold water, and also place on the hot stove, in a suitable vessel, 2 lbs. soap, cut small, 3 cents' worth of borax, (about an ounce,) and 2 quarts of water. These may be left to simmer till the fire goes out; in the morning the mixture will be solid. On washing day, operations are commenced by setting on a stove or furnace the wash-kettle, nearly filled with cold water. Into this put about one-fourth of a pound of the compound, and then wring out the clothes that have been soaking and put them into the kettle. By the time that the water is scalding hot, the clothes will be ready for taking out. Drain them well, and put them into clean cold water, and then thoroughly rinse them twice, and they are ready to be hung out. When more water is added to the wash-kettle, more soap should also be added, but the quantity needed will be very small.

This process has many advantages over others. It is suited for washing every kind of fabric; it is especially good for flannels, and seems to set

colors rather than remove them from dresses or shawls, while the white clothes are rendered exceedingly white. It costs less for soap than the common mode of washing; it is only half as laborious; the clothes are thoroughly cleansed in much less time, without injury to them; and last, but not least, the soap does not act like caustic upon the hands, but after a day's washing they have a peculiarly soft, silky feel, as far removed as is possible from the sensations produced by washing with ordinary soap, or ordinary washing compounds.

My wife—who dictates as I write—has tried many processes and compounds, but has settled down upon this, as being as near perfect as is possible for any thing of man's invention to be. It may be useful to some of your subscribers, but of this you must judge, and print the recipe or not, as seems to you best. **TYPO.**

We are quite thankful to our friend "Typo" for acting as an amanuensis to his "better half" in giving us the above recipe. There are many valuable recipes which are confined to the limited circles where they originated, because no one writes them out for the public. From the source of this recipe, we have considerable confidence in supposing it to be a valuable one. We cannot see a good chemical reason for the valuable effects thought to be produced by the use of borax, but it is not at all improbable that it may be so.

We have noticed that in nearly all recipes for washing, it is recommended to soak the clothes over night. In this, we think, lies the principal secret of their success. Most of the ordinary filth upon clothing is dissolved in water if sufficient time is given. The turpentine and camphene frequently recommended to be added to soap, are good solvents of the oily substances upon clothing. If much of these are used, however, there is danger of their being absorbed into the system, producing laxative, and other injurious effects. A small quantity is probably not objectionable. If, as stated above, borax produces equally good or better results, it is to be preferred, as being less liable to be injurious. We hope our lady readers will thoroughly test this new process, and report upon the results. If as good as recommended, it will be worth scores of dollars to every one adopting it.

BED AND BOARD.—A very good hit at the too common practice of advertising fugitive wives, is given in the *Stamford Advocate*, wherein Mrs. JONES says, that she has left no "bed and board" of Mr. JONES, for he had none to leave, as he had been a long time supported by herself; that he had even taken her money to pay for the advertisement; that he need not have advertised that "he would not pay her debts," for the public all knew he would not even pay his own; and that, if left to himself, his bed would be only a board.

BE CAREFUL TO WHOM YOU TALK.—Two young ladies were once singing a duett in a concert-room. A stranger, who had heard better performances, turned to his neighbor, saying: "Does not the lady in white sing wretchedly?" "Excuse me, Sir," replied he; "I hardly feel at liberty to express my sentiments, being not impartial in the case; it is my sister."

"I beg your pardon, Sir," answered the stranger in much confusion, "I meant the lady in blue." "You are perfectly right there," replied the neighbor; "I have often told her so myself; it is my wife!"

American Agriculturist.

New-York Wednesday, January 11, 1854.

NATIONAL EXHIBITION OF POULTRY.

The central position of this city, and the easy and convenient modes of access to it from all parts of the country, together with the many objects of general interest here congregated, render it one of the best places for general national exhibitions of the various animals and other products of agricultural industry.

The great number of persons, including residents in the city, as well as the multitude of business men and visitors from every part of the country, always present to support such exhibitions, are the surest guarantee of success. The result of the Springfield National Horse Show confirms what we long ago said: viz., that in agricultural exhibitions, it is better to concentrate the whole attention, for the time being, upon one class of animals or products, than to attempt a partial exhibition of a number of classes at the same time and place. We shall hereafter look for separate National exhibitions, in this city, of horses, cattle, sheep, swine, poultry, fruits, grains, &c. The series of shows is to be opened, during the next month, with a National Exhibition of Poultry, as the one most appropriate to this season of the year.

A number of prominent gentlemen interested in the subject met at the Astor House on Thursday afternoon, the 5th inst., and organized a National Poultry Society, for the improvement of every description of domestic poultry.

P. T. BARNUM, Esq., of Bridgeport, Ct., was appointed President; Mr. A. B. ALLEN, Secretary; and R. B. COLEMAN, Esq., of the Astor House, Treasurer of the Society. The Managers are:

P. T. Barnum,	Alfred E. Beach,
A. B. Allen,	Wm. Ellsworth, Brook-
Horace Greeley,	lyn,
Moses S. Beach,	T. B. Miner, of Clinville,
N. J. Becar,	N. Y.,
Solon Robinson,	T. S. Gold, West Corn-
J. S. Redfield,	wall, Ct.,
Joseph Hough,	George Seelye,
J. S. Oatman,	James Van Norden,
William H. Burroughs,	Thos. Trimble, of Balti-
John N. Genin,	more, Md.,
R. L. Colt, of Paterson,	David Gibson, of New-
N. J.,	Richmond, Ohio,
J. N. Amerman,	Fitzhugh Coyle, Wash-
Fordeyce Hitchcock,	ington, D. C.,
Wm. Delamano,	Lorillard Spencer, West-
G. N. Tuttle,	chester, N. Y.,
W. B. Dinsmore,	Benjamin Hayes, Eliza-
A. B. Miller,	bethtown, N. J.,
O. S. Fowler, N. Y.,	S. B. Parsons, Flushing,
Edwin R. Yale,	L. I.

Several hundred dollars were subscribed, which will be offered in premiums for the best specimens of fowls that can be produced from any part of the United States.

The Society resolved to hold a grand National Poultry Show in the city of New-York on the thirteenth day of February next, continuing several days. This will include the exhibition of all kinds of fowls, pea-fowls, ducks, geese, swans, fancy pigeons, gold and silver pheasants, &c. Premiums will also be offered for the best specimens of rabbits, rat-terrier dogs, and deer.

This being the first exhibition of this character in New-York, its novelty alone will doubtless attract large crowds of visitors, including many

purchasers, and there is every inducement to breeders to send in their specimens, both for exhibition and sale.

As the chief object of the Society is to encourage the improvement of domestic poultry, by bringing together, for comparison and sale, as large a variety as possible from every part of the Union, the Managers have determined to make no charge whatever to competitors for the privilege of exhibiting their specimens.

Exhibitors will be admitted free at all times during the exhibition.

Food and water will be provided by the Society for all fowls on exhibition, and proper persons will be appointed to regularly feed and provide for them, without inconvenience to the owner.

Fowls intended for the exhibition may be sent in advance of the time to the Managers, at Adams' Express Office, New-York.

Every coop is to be marked with the true name of the fowls exhibited, and, when they are for sale, the price asked is to be legibly marked thereon.

The Managers will undoubtedly succeed in rendering this the most brilliant and attractive show of the kind ever got up in this country. There has never been a similar exhibition held in this city; its novelty and usefulness, therefore, will not be its least recommendations.

We are very glad to see Mr. BARNUM placed at the head of this Society; for a more appropriate or efficient man for such things the world does not afford. His great administrative and admirable managing talents are admitted by all. To these he adds indomitable energy, uncommon tact, and a wholesale liberality. We understand he has taken hold of this Poultry Exhibition with great enthusiasm, and will do all in his power to make it the finest yet got up in the United States. In this he will be well seconded by a large number of active managers, chosen from different parts of the Union. The officers are not all yet fully appointed.

The time for holding this Exhibition is placed immediately after that of the State Poultry Society at Albany, so as not to compete with or detract from that, but, on the contrary, to make it more convenient for those who may wish to take their poultry to both exhibitions.

ERROR IN CREDIT.—We notice in several of our exchanges, an article entitled "Popular Fallacies," which is in some cases without credit, and in others is credited to the *Journal of Agriculture*. The article was originally written for, and first appeared in the *American Agriculturist*.

DYING, &c.—"A Subscriber" asks us to give recipes for dying bright red, or scarlet, &c., and for making "Gen. Twigg's Mixture for the Hair." With the latter we are unacquainted, and with regard to the former, it is out of our province to give instructions in those arts and manufactures not immediately connected with agriculture. Good recipes for common, plain coloring, as practised by farmers' wives at home, we shall be glad to insert as we have opportunity, or as they come in our way.

UNION SPRINGS, N. Y.—Mr. JAMES S. ALLEN, of Union Springs, Cayuga Co., sent us, on December 31st, some records of 1853, taken from a note-book, which he states he has kept in the

same town for the last thirty-five years. We give extracts. Spring, wet, cold, and very backward. In summer, while other parts of New-York were suffering from drought, caterpillars, &c., this section had ten days of rain in each of the months of June, July, and August, and the longest time without rain was eleven days, from the tenth to the twenty-first of June. Grasshoppers were so scarce, that they brought sixpence per dozen in the season for bass fishing. Drought and heavy hailstones, however, prevailed at short distances from the locality of the writer—the hail doing much injury to barley and other grain crops, as well as fruit.

FINE SHOW OF ARTIFICIAL FRUITS.

MR. T. GLOVER, of Fishkill, several of whose articles, from time to time enrich the pages of this journal, has for several years been engaged in making fac-simile casts of the various fruits, and has accumulated by far the largest collection of these to be found in the country. His specimens, amounting to some two thousand in number, will be exhibited at the rooms of the American Institute, 351 Broadway, on Thursday and Friday of this week, after which they will be taken to Washington, to be exhibited at the meeting of the United States Agricultural Society. They will well repay a visit and careful examination, and we advise all who can do so to see them while in this city this week. We hope some public association will make an effort to permanently secure this invaluable collection, if Mr. GLOVER will part with it.

For the American Agriculturist.

IMMIGRATION TO VIRGINIA.

MR. EDITOR:—In a recent number of your journal, (p. 232,) you request your Virginia friends "to write down a plain account of their own method of conducting their farms, price of land, of labor, crops, &c." You desire this information for gentlemen purposing to come South as farmers.

I have long thought that such a movement would be of great benefit to all such parties, and to the country.

Very briefly let me direct attention to the region of Virginia lying on the South Side railroad from Petersburg to Lynchburg, Va., and on the railroad from Richmond to Danville. These roads penetrate some 100 to 150 miles, in a southern and western direction from Richmond and Petersburg, and intersect each other about sixty miles from each place.

Most of this region is within forty-eight to sixty hours of New-York by sea, and less time by overland.

It is mainly the tobacco-growing region of Virginia; but farmers are finding less planting, and more attention to wheat, &c. &c., more profitable; and a *snug, managing New-York farmer would make a fortune* by farming here. Wheat, oats, corn, peas, and fruits succeed and pay well. Lands may be purchased for from five dollars (or even lower) to thirty dollars per acre—ten to fifteen being about the average. Labor is high at present; negroes cannot generally be hired for less than \$100 to \$125 for the year, and board, clothing, &c.—this is in consequence of the demand for labor on the public improvements.

Bring "hired men" with you, if you like.

Taking climate, soil, (though much is worn out, it can be bought low and readily and quickly improved by judicious culture,) society, and access to market, into consideration, I am candid in saying that those seeking a new location would do well to look at these lands, many of which are for sale.

I write anonymously, Mr. Editor. I am a plain farmer with no name or reputation, and therefore can see no necessity for my real name. I am sure any of the following gentlemen, identified with farming interests, and men of intelligence, would answer inquiries: viz., Dr. A. A. CAMPBELL, Nottaway Court House; B. J. WORTHAM, clerk of the courts, Prince Edward C. H.; Col. W. C. KNIGHT or CHAS. SMITH, Esq., Jeffries Store P. O., Lunenburg; G. W. READ, Esq., Charlotte C. H.; J. E. VENABLE, Petersburg; J. R. WATKINS, Richmond; J. R. EDMONDS, Halifax C. H.

A FARMER OF VIRGINIA,

Who is neither a land-seller or land-buyer.

AGRICULTURE AND THE CROWNS.

WHILE all our political characters, from the President down to the lowest tide-waiter, ignore agriculture and all connected with it, we have only to turn our eyes over the water, to find Kings and Queens who place this subject among the first and most important interests of their realms, not only by alluding to it in their annual messages, and recommending liberal measures for its advancement, but also by an active participation in the various enterprises set on foot for its improvement. We were sensibly impressed with this fact, by reading the report of the recent Smithfield Club Show, at which Prince ALBERT was one of the most active and successful exhibitors, and by his presence and participation assisted in giving an impulse to improvement in breeding various animals. He even carried away the highest prize for breeding the best swine, as the following extracts show:

Among Hereford Oxen above three years old, his Royal Highness Prince Albert exhibited an ox of great merit. The girth was 9 ft. 4 in., and the length 5½ feet—dimensions equal to many of the Short-horn beasts, and exceeding the prize animals. The carcass was very primely fattened, but lumpy rather than even in the covering of flesh, and tending to secretions on particular places. The body wanted length to form a handsome carcass, for however desirable and essential a deep girth may be, a very considerable degree of cylindrical length is required to constitute a handsome ox; and this requisite holds in every animal life—in horses, cattle, sheep, pigs, and even in poultry. The now mentioned beast was high in the shoulder, but a most respectable animal.

Pigs had a large exhibition in every class, except in the large breeds, which are declining. Only one very large animal was exhibited, which had no recommendation except "monstrosity." The small breeds and middle bulks were very superior.

His Royal Highness Prince Albert was the chief winner of prizes in young and aged pigs, and also of the gold medal. The younger pigs are unexceptionable; the older animals are very low and heavy, unwieldy, with a head that is very disproportionately small and unseemly. The pigs belonging to Mr. Marjoribanks are more active; and our opinion gives the preference to the stock of Mr. Crockford's, Stanmore, possessing more length of body, higher on the legs, a better sized head, and a better coat of hair. The pig is naturally a drowsy, sluggish, and stupid animal, and the fattening organization should

not be reduced beneath some degree of sprightly vigor, in order to promote the action of the digestive and functional organs. Lateral extension is a great essential in a pig, but it must not overbalance the length, and produce an unwieldy sideling bulk. A breed of swine is preferable, which in the young condition affords small fresh pork, and in the advanced state yields hams and bacon of sufficient size. This breed would dispense with small varieties, which suit only one purpose, and also the large breeds that yield bacon only.

The success of his Royal Highness Prince Albert in the breeding of pigs, and his complete failure this year of the four oxen exhibited in Devons and Herefords, suggest the expediency or necessity of breeding, as well as feeding the cattle, when the same success might attend the performance. There is much more merit in breeding cattle than in feeding them, the latter being altogether mechanical, and the former a very high exertion of intellectual judgment and calculation. There is little merit, comparatively, in refining the organization of swine, as the hog is very susceptible of variations, and an almost universal cosmopolite. The frequent bearing of young, shows the effects of sexual intercourse much sooner than the yearly productions of cattle and sheep. Prizes for any animals might be confined to the breeders "only."

MCGILASHAN'S TREE TRANSPLANTER.

THE inventor of the machine for transplanting trees, which has excited a good deal of interest both in Europe and America, replies to some objections which have been urged against it in the *London Gardener's Chronicle*. The most important exception taken in the article referred to, was the destruction of the fibres or rootlets by cutting. While Mr. MCGILASHAN admits the necessity of preserving the rootlets, he maintains that his method preserves the whole mass of rootlets contained in the ball from exposure, which is very injurious to them, and that the cutting of the roots does not injure them so much as the bruising they are subject to by the ordinary methods of transplanting, when the ball is much reduced; and that the wound soon heals, and new rootlets are formed. As a practical proof of the success of his machine he states, that of 1200 trees and shrubs of different sorts, transplanted within a circle of fifty miles, with balls of earth varying from 10 feet square to 1 foot 10 inches, only three have failed, and the remainder are apparently doing as well as if they had never been removed, and this, too, after the most trying part of the season. Mr. MCGILASHAN seems to be satisfied of the eventual success of this novel machine.

A WORD TO BOYS.—Boys, did you think that this great world, all its wealth and woe, with all its mines and mountains, its oceans, seas and rivers, steamboats and ships, railroads and steam printing presses, magnetic telegraphs, will soon be given over to the hands of the boys of the present age! Believe it, and look abroad upon the inheritance, and get ready to enter upon your duties.

A GOOD COW.—The *Albany Argus* tells of a cow owned by Mr. James Brice, of New Scotland, Albany county, and bearing the name "Cherry," which yielded 46 lbs. and 14 oz. butter in the month ending Dec. 19th. The cow was four years old 14th June last.

THE year 1854 will begin and end on the Sabbath; five months will contain five Sabbaths each, and there will be fifty-three Sabbaths in the year.

Getting is a chance, but keeping is a virtue.

WASHINGTON'S EARLY DAYS.

PUTNAM'S MAGAZINE for January is a rare treat for all lovers of good, original American literature. Among its long list of valuable articles, we may name Washington's Early Days, by Mrs. KIRKLAND, the Public Buildings of New-York, The National Inventory, Hayti and the Haitians, Stage Coach Stories, Puns and Punctures, &c., &c. The publisher announces that he "will send the Magazine one year, *post-paid*, to those remitting \$3 promptly in advance." (By reference to our last page, it will be seen that our publishers furnish this paper and the Magazine for \$4.) We give the following short extract from the first of a series of articles on the early life of Washington. This first article is throughout very interesting, and goes far to prove that "the child is father to the man." Referring to a *written* book kept by young GEORGE in his early days, the writer says:

Still more valuable is another portion of this precious volume, thirty pages in which are maxims, regularly numbered, to the extent of a hundred and ten, under the title of "Rules of Behavior in Company and Conversation." The import and value of these rules are various, ranging from a caution against drumming on the table, to a recommendation of reverence when the Highest Name is mentioned. It is evident from his after history that these very rules, copied and conned at thirteen, were invoven into Washington's habits of thought and action; and that having once secured the assent of his taste, reason, and conscience, they continued effective throughout his life, and seemed to guard him against instinctive selfishness and the assaults of his own passions, as well as against any encroachment on the rights or feelings of others. When we reflect how striking was ever the courtesy and appropriateness of his behavior under the most difficult circumstances, it becomes most interesting to read, in the stiff, boyish hand of that early time, such rules as these:

"Let your discourse with men of business be short and comprehensive. It is good manners to prefer them to whom we speak before ourselves, especially if they be above us, with whom in no sort we ought to begin. Let your countenance be pleasant, but in serious matters somewhat grave. In writing or speaking, give to every person his due title, according to his degree and the custom of the place. Being to advise or reprehend any one, consider whether it ought to be in public or in private, presently or at some other time, in what terms to do it; and in reproving show no signs of choler, but do it with sweetness and mildness. Take all admonitions thankfully, in what time or place soever given; but afterwards, not being culpable, take a time and place convenient to let him know it that gave them. Mock not nor jest at any thing of importance; break no jests that are sharp-biting, and if you deliver any thing witty and pleasant, abstain from laughing thereat yourself. Wherein you reprove another, be unblamable yourself, for example is more prevalent than precepts. Let your conversation be without malice or envy, for it is a sign of a tractable and commendable nature; and in all cases of passion, admit reason to govern. Be not angry at table, whatever happens, and if you have reason to be so, show it not; put on a cheerful countenance, especially if there be strangers, for good humor maketh one dish of meat at a feast. When you speak of God or his attributes, let it be seriously, in reverence. Honor and obey your natural parents though they be poor. Let your recreations be manful, not sinful. Labor to keep alive in your breast that little spark of celestial fire, called Conscience."

From what repertory these and all the other maxims in the collection were drawn, we know not; they wear the air of having been culled from various sources. Their having been copied

fairly into a book would not of itself be worthy of remark, since such things are often dictated to children by their teachers; but the striking correspondence between these precepts and the after life of the writer, makes them interesting as proving him

Endued
With sanctity of reason—

to keep unbroken that connection between convictions and conduct, the severing of which causes half the crime and wretchedness of the world.

CLAIMS OF AGRICULTURAL PATENTS

ISSUED FOR THE WEEK ENDING DEC. 20, 1853.

GRAIN AND GRASS HARVESTERS.—By Uriah H. Goble, of Springfield, Ohio: I claim, first making the ground or driving-wheel with a conical tread to counteract the tendency of the machine to run into the uncut grain to prevent the side draught, and to better balance the machine by throwing the heft to the outside or from the uncut grain, as described.

I also claim so hinging the platform immediately in rear of the cutters, and giving it a rising and a falling motion, by means of the cam and lever, or their equivalents, when said motions are made to conform to the motions of the reel or rake, to retain and then facilitate the discharge of the cut grain from the platform in bunches, as described.

GRAIN AND GRASS HARVESTERS.—By J. E. Brown & S. L. Bartlett, of Woonsocket, R. I.: We claim the double-bladed or two-edged knife, or its equivalent, so constructed as to cut in each direction, as it is vibrating, as described.

Second, the knife in combination with the curves and teeth.

Third, we claim the mode of operating the double-bladed knives or cutters, by means of the rack and pinions, as set forth.

Fourth, we claim the arrangement of the devices which communicates the motion from the internal part of the driving-wheel to the rack, as set forth.

Fifth, the gearing, arranged and combined so as to work within the main wheel, and operate the crank upon the axle of the main wheel, as described.

GRAIN AND GRASS HARVESTERS.—By Wm. & Thomas Schnebly, of New York City: We claim the method of arranging the gear in combination with the moveable plate, to which the crank-pin is fastened, said moveable plate being located on the flange of the second pinion, by which method we can increase or diminish the lateral distance of the motion of the cutters, as described.

We claim the method of constructing the hollow guard fingers, each one being a single piece, only substantially as described.

We claim the self-acting rake with jointed fingers, in combination with the guide-rods upon which it is made to slide back and forth, as described.

SHOES TO WINNERS.—By Joseph & James Montgomery, of Lancaster, Pa.: We claim the construction and arrangement of the ordinary shoe, so as to receive an extra shoe and door, as set forth.

MANURE CRUSHERS AND SOWERS.—By T. F. Nelson, of Clark Co., Va.: I claim the combination of the fluted or toothed cylinders, with the toothed shaft operating as described, for the purpose of grinding and distributing guano or other pulverized manures, as set forth, the whole being in combination with any ordinary seed planter.

MANURE AND OTHER FORKS.—By B. H. Franklin, of Worcester, Mass.: I claim making the tines of forks three sided, as described, whereby I diminish the weight, retain the strength, improve the holding properties of the fork, and at the same time prevent its choking, and cheapen the article.

POWER RAKES.—By H. N. Tripp, of Alfred, Me.: I claim combining with the rake-head and shafts a set of levers and back draught bars, as

set forth, so that by the conjoint action of the forward draught of the horse and the back draught of the attendant, the rake may be either turned up or off the ground, and supported on its wheels, or turned down so as to bring its teeth in contact with the ground, as specified.

SELF-ACTING MACHINES FOR WEIGHING GRAIN.—By I. D. Garlick, of Lyons, N. Y.: I claim the auxiliary gate, when combined with the loaded bent lever and cam catch, or their equivalents, which act upon the steel-yard so as to lift shortly before the weight of grain in the weighing box becomes sufficient to raise it, as set forth.

I also claim suspending the weighing box in lever, whereby it is made to slide up and down the frame by means of a rack pinion and loaded within said frame at each weighing, and to produce the movements as described.

I also claim the arrangement and combination of the bent cam lever, the pin on the frame, and the curved elastic rod connecting said lever with the lid, for the purpose of opening the lid at each descent of the weighing box within the frame, and again closing it by the ascent thereof, as set forth.

I also claim the suspended hopper, in combination with the vibrating lever, arranged as set forth.

I also claim the combination of the notches and catch wire, with the elastic shoe and pin of the lever, arranged in such a manner that said lever is successively set free from the notch Q, catch, and notch R, respectively, by the ascent, descent, and second ascent of the steel-yard, as set forth.

I also claim the adjustable cam catch, as described, in combination with the shouldered rod, for the purpose set forth.

I also claim the slotted rod, in combination with the vibratory lever, when arranged in such a manner that the ascent of the lever will raise the gate, and hook the catch over the pin of the steel-yard, but will not disturb the gate in its descent, as described.

I also claim the arrangement and combination of the adjustable notched and perforated disc, the coupling pins, index, arm, and stop, as set forth.

STEAM BOILERS.—By C. F. Sibbald, of Philadelphia, Pa.: I claim the fire box, deflecting plates, fire surface, and water surface, as constructed, and the whole arranged as set forth.

Also, the additional steam chamber placed below the water surface and behind the fire box, and connected to the main steam chamber by a pipe passing through the smoke stack, as set forth.

COTTON PRESSES.—By J. B. Armstrong, of Barnwell, S. C.: I claim the method described of holding the bale under compression, and preventing it from springing or yielding during the stitching and roping of the same whilst the platen is being run down or back, by means of a false top or platen, hooked or otherwise hitched to the bed, and arranged to work in connection with the main platen, as specified, whereby time is economized in the operation of the press as set forth.

A GOOD MAN'S WISH.—I freely confess to you that I would rather, when I am laid down in the grave, have some one in his manhood stand over me and say: "There lies one who was a real friend to me, and privately warned me of the dangers of the young; no one knew it, but he aided me in the time of need; I owe what I am to him;" or would rather have some widow, with choking utterance telling her children, "there is your friend and mine. He visited me in my affliction, and found you, my son, an employer, and you, my daughter, a happy home in a virtuous family." I say, I would rather that such persons should stand at my grave, than to have erected over it the most beautiful sculptured monuments of Parian or Italian marble. The heart's broken utterance of reflections of past kindness, and the tears of

grateful memory shed upon the grave, are more valuable, in my estimation, than the most beautiful cenotaph ever reared.

THE HOG TRADE.—The receipts, &c., during the week, have been as follows:

By River.....	2,689
By Railroads and Canals.....	23,009
Through Toll Gates.....	11,707
From Kentucky.....	4,160
Slaughtered in Plainville.....	4,800

Total for the week.....	46,469
Previously reported.....	279,875

Grand Total.....	326,341
To same date last year.....	344,188
To same date, 1852.....	311,592
To same date, 1851.....	288,267

It now requires only twenty-nine thousand to equal the whole number shown by our weekly reports last season, these having fallen short six thousand of the whole number packed. Hogs received by wagons, are not included in our reports, and consequently the packers' reports at the close of the season, overrun the aggregate of our weekly statements. It is clear now, that there will be an excess in the business at this point.—*Gazette.*

Cincinnati, Jan. 3, 1854.

THE PHILOSOPHY OF BOARDING.—What do you charge for board, asked a tall Green Mountain boy, as he walked up to the bar of a second rate hotel in New York: "What do you ask a week for board and lodging?"

"Five dollars."

"Five dollars! that's too much; but I suppose you'll allow for the times I am absent from dinner and supper?"

"Certainly; thirty-seven and a half cents each."

Here the conversation ended, and the Yankee took up his quarters for two weeks. During this time he lodged and breakfasted at the hotel, but did not take either dinner or supper, saying his business detained him in another portion of the town. At the expiration of the two weeks, he walked up to the bar, and said—

"S'pose we settle that account—I'm goin' to leave in a few minutes."

The landlord handed him his bill:—"Two weeks board at five dollars—ten dollars."

"Here, stranger," said the Yankee, "this is wrong—you've not deducted the times I was absent from dinner and supper—14 days, two meals per day; 28 meals, at 37½ cents each—\$10.50cts. If you've not got the fifty cents that's dew to me, I'll take a drink, and the balance in segars."

SLEEPING IN CHURCH.—People who carry full dinners to church with them in the afternoon are remarkably apt to fall asleep, no matter how good the sermon may be. Last Sunday afternoon, a Baptist clergyman in Hudson street, while holding forth to his congregation in a style that ought to have kept them awake, suddenly stopped in his discourse, and said—

"Brethren: I have preached about half of my sermon, and I perceive that twenty-five or thirty of my congregation are fast asleep. I shall postpone the delivery of the balance of it until they wake up!"

There was a dead pause for about five minutes, during which time the sleepers awoke, and then the preacher "went on."—*Express.*

PRETTY GOOD.—At the depot a few days ago, says the *Groton Mercury*, we noticed a fellow seated near the door of one of the ladies' apartments, with a few pounds of hair surrounding his mouth. A little boy passing the room with his parents, on seeing the object, exclaimed, "Oh mother, mother, just see that man with a cat in his mouth."

Do in the hole as thou wouldst do in the hall.

A NICE LANDLORD.—A traveller found a buffalo robe belonging to a hotel-keeper, who, on receiving it, thanked the finder, remarking that a "Thank you" was worth twenty-five cents, and "Thank you kindly," was worth thirty-seven and a half cents. Soon after, the traveller called for a dinner, ate it, and asked the landlord what was to pay, "Twenty-five cents," was the reply. "I thank you kindly," said the traveller, and moved off. "Here my good fellow, stop and take the change," remarked the landlord, throwing down a ninepence, "your dinner was only 25 cents."

CAUSE AND EFFECT.—A Philadelphia correspondent of the *Baltimore Sun*, in speaking of the tightness of the money market, says:

"I stepped into one of the fashionable jewelry stores in Chesnut street, and saw a lady purchase a lot of diamonds worth \$525, and ordered them to be sent home. A few minutes afterwards I met the husband of the lady in a broker's office, in Third street, negotiating a note of five thousand dollars at a shave of four per cent. per month."

A merchant broke in New-York the other day, who presented his wife with a three thousand dollar shawl last winter.

A GOOD HIT.—One of the best "hits" ever made on the impropriety in a lady's dress, was made by Talleyrand. During the revolution, when asked by a lady his opinion of her dress, he replied, "it began too late and ended too soon."

DATING LETTERS.—Where our correspondents are not perfectly well known to us, we wish they would in all cases, date their letters *very plainly, with their post-office address.* Nearly every town in the United States has half a dozen name-sakes in other States, and of some of the most popular, they number by fifties. A few years since, there were about thirty Washingtons in Ohio alone. Let us, in all cases, have the *name of their post-office and State*, at the head of their letter, and they will be sure of a right direction for their letters in return.

PRE-PAYMENT OF POSTAGE.—All correspondents are requested to *pre-pay their postage* on letters to us, as they thereby secure pre-payment in return. The saving of two cents for each letter may seem a small matter to such as seldom write, but the general omission to pre-pay would make a difference of hundreds of dollars per annum in our own postage bills.

We also suggest the propriety, where correspondents write us expressly on their own business, requesting a favor which causes us some trouble, and with no corresponding benefit, that they not only pre-pay their postage, but also enclose a stamp, to pre-pay the answer they solicit in return.

Markets.

From the Mark Lane Express, Dec. 19th.

REVIEW OF THE BRITISH CORN TRADE.

The opinion we ventured to express about a month ago, when prices of Wheat were receding in all parts of the kingdom, viz., that any decline which might take place would probably be of a temporary nature, appears likely to prove tolerably correct; indeed, a rally has already taken place, and the greater portion of the reduction has been recovered. Whether any material rise on present rates will take place, will depend, in a great measure, on the character of the winter, and other circumstances, which cannot, at present, be determined; but the probability is strongly in favor of an advance. The wants of this country and France are daily becoming more manifest; and it is certain that Great Britain, as well as our continental neighbor, will require to import on a very extensive scale to keep prices in check.

The present position of affairs in the East is such as to give rise to great doubts whether the western countries of Europe will be enabled to derive the aid from the Black Sea which they might have obtained in more peaceful times.

England will, at all events, encounter great difficulties in securing any large quantity in that quarter, so long as the Italian and Marseilles markets afford relatively higher prices—to say nothing of the difference in freight, &c. In looking over the lists of shipments from Odessa for the last three months, it is really astonishing to see how small a proportion of vessels cleared out from thence with Grain cargoes have been for the United Kingdom. The great bulk has gone to Marseilles, without producing any marked or lasting impression on prices there; and it would appear, from the best sources of information within our reach, that the South of France will need to import on quite as large a scale as hitherto up to the time of next harvest; we must therefore be prepared to expect a great falling-off in the supplies from the east—the quarter from whence Great Britain has of late years drawn the major portion of her foreign supply of Corn. That this will be in some measure compensated by increased shipments from the United States and Canada there can be no doubt; but the decrease in the Black Sea supply can scarcely, we think, be covered by the increase in the receipts from America. Holland, Belgium, and the Rhine provinces, &c., appear to require aid; and from thence we must not reckon on any assistance. In Poland, and part of Prussia, the last crop has given an indifferent return; but in some of the countries which furnish the Lower Baltic ports with Wheat, the result of the harvest has been more favorable. Stocks of old Wheat are, however, reduced into a very narrow compass at all the Baltic ports; and even if this were not the case, no shipments from thence could be calculated on till next spring, the winter having set in early, and the navigation being now completely closed. Under these circumstances it may be regarded as very fortunate that some accumulation of stocks has taken place here, and that we have a prospect of receiving a considerable quantity of breadstuffs from the other side of the Atlantic during the time that the northern continental ports may remain closed by ice. Feeling fully convinced that the deficiency of our last Wheat crop has not been in any way exaggerated, we arrive at this conclusion—that *making full allowance for the quantity of Corn in granary, and estimating the probable aid America may be able to afford somewhat higher than we have hitherto felt justified in doing; all we have, and all we are likely to receive, will be needed.*

The arrival of nearly 100,000 qrs. of Wheat into the port of London within the space of a fortnight, has failed to produce the slightest effect on prices; on the contrary, a rise has taken place here, as well as at all the principal provincial markets. This has no doubt been caused in a great measure by the revival of the export demand for Wheat, and partly also by the increased severity of the weather; the latter circumstance having made that which was previously only probable—viz., the closing of the Baltic by ice—certain. Besides the purchases which have been made this week for France and Belgium at the ports where stocks of foreign Wheat are held, some quantity of English has, we believed, been bought on the east coast for shipment; this has caused considerable excitement, and the rise has been greater at the places where this has occurred than would have been occasioned by transactions of much more importance at such markets as London, Liverpool, &c. The last named town has also been visited by continental buyers, which, with a good local and country demand, caused an advance of 3d. to 4d. per 70 lbs. on Wheat, and 1s. and 2s. per barrel on American Flour. On Tuesday, and later in the week, a further enhancement took place.

There is one circumstance of a cheering character, and worthy of remark; we allude to the comparative ease existing in Ireland as regards the supply of food. Thus far there has been hardly any demand from thence for Indian Corn—a sure proof that the Potato crop has suffered less from disease than was at one period

supposed. The yield of Oats has also been good in the sister isle, and we trust that she will be spared the visitation of scarcity.

The arrivals of Wheat coastwise into the port of London have again been small—only 2,031 qrs. having been reported during the week ending this (Saturday) evening. The receipts from abroad have amounted to 32,000 qrs., making an arrival of nearly 90,000 qrs. within a fortnight. The wind having been favorable during nearly the whole of that period for vessels from the north, we may presume that most of the autumn shipments from the Baltic have reached us.

Importers have displayed considerable firmness, and the demand having been active throughout the week, the tendency of prices has been decidedly upwards. Quotations are now as high as ever they have been, and the appearance of the trade is very firm and healthy.

Household Flour was held for more money at the close than in the beginning of the week. The arrivals from America have been moderate, whilst the inquiry has been very active; sellers have consequently experienced no difficulty in establishing an advance of fully 1s. per bbl. on good, fresh qualities.

English Barley has come more sparingly to hand than of late, and factors have manifested much less anxiety to realize.

The arrivals of Oats coastwise and from Ireland have been small. The advance of 6d. per qr. insisted on has, however, been very unwillingly paid by the dealers, and the operations have therefore not been particularly extensive.

Beans, which were greatly depressed in the early part of the month, have this week met with a moderate share of attention, and the prices paid on Friday were certainly 1s. per qr. above those at which purchases might have been made on Monday.

Indian Corn has, notwithstanding the improvement in other articles, continued neglected. The quantity on sale is small, and holders appearing confident of a better demand, the prices asked have been rather higher than those of last week.

THE CONTINENTAL CORN TRADE.

The frost has continued, and the Baltic ports have been closed by ice during the last few weeks; further shipments from thence will, therefore, in all probability be rendered impracticable until spring.

The letters from Danzig are wholly without interest.

The accounts from Königsberg are of a similar character.

At Stettin, about forty grain-laden vessels had been caught in the ice, and it was not expected that any of these would get free before spring.

Letters from Stralsund, of the 12th inst., state that the deliveries of new grain from the growers had been small, and that previous prices had been well supported for Wheat as well as spring corn.

From the near continental ports we learn that Wheat had been in good request at rising prices.

Hamburg letters of Tuesday state that several purchases had been made there, on French and Belgian account, for shipment in spring.

Letters from Rotterdam inform us that the navigation of the Meuse had also been closed by the frost, and that in the absence of any shipping demand for Wheat, the article had become dull of sale. Previous prices had, however, been steadily supported.

In the Belgian markets, Wheat had, according to the most recent reports, advanced materially, without drawing larger supplies from the growers.

The latest advices from France are not of quite so excited a character as those received in the early part of the week, the advanced prices asked having tended to interfere with the sales. At Paris, on Wednesday, fine flour was quoted 100 to 102 francs per sack of 157 kilos—a higher rate than had been attained at any previous period since harvest. At most of the northern markets, the tendency of prices had, it appears,

continued upwards, but buyers had paid the enhanced terms with more or less reluctance.

The accounts from the Mediterranean are quieter this week, large arrivals from the Black Sea having at length had the effect of checking the rise there.

Advises from Odessa, dated 2d inst., inform us that much excitement prevailed there, owing to the various reports of the progress of the war.

Cincinnati, Jan. 5, 1854.

Hogs.—The weather was again unfavorable to-day, and in the market for Hogs there was little or nothing done. The only sale heard of was 400 head at \$4 55. Dressed were sold in small lots at lower figures, but lots in pens or to arrive were not offered below \$4 50, holders anticipating an improvement with the return of favorable weather.

Provisions.—Sales to-day of 800 pcs. Bulk Shoulders at 4½¢; 5000 Sides at 5½¢; 200,000 lbs. Sides and Shoulders, deliverable March 1st at 5½¢ and 4½¢; 273 kegs No. 1 Lard, at 8½¢, and 150 bbls. do. at 8½¢. For the latter buyers generally offer only 8¢. Green meats cut to-day sold at low figures, but this having been chiefly in consequence of the weather, the transactions cannot be considered a fair criterion. Mess Pork was offered freely at \$12.

CHEESE.—Sales of 200 boxes at 8½¢; 100 do at 8, and 50 do. English Dairy, at 11½¢. The demand continues limited.

BUTTER.—Sales of 2000 lbs. prime packed at 11¢; 36 firkins choice do. at 12½¢; 5 bbls. choice Roll at 15¢, and 14 do. good do. at 13 a 13½¢.

PRODUCE MARKETS.

Wholesale prices of the more important Vegetables, Fruits, &c.

Washington Market, Jan. 7, 1854.

VEGETABLES.—Potatoes, Carters, ½ bbl., \$3; Mercers, \$3; Junes, \$2 75; Western Reds, \$2 37½; Cabbages, ½ 100, \$5 50; Savoy, ½ 100, \$2 50; German Greens, ½ 100, \$2 50; Onions, white, ½ bbl., \$2 25; yellow do., \$2; red do., \$1 50; Parsneps ½ bushel, 44¢; Carrots, ½ bushel, 44¢; Turnips, Ruta Baga, ½ bbl., \$1 50; white ½ bushel, 44¢; yellow stone, ½ bushel, 50¢; Spinach, ½ bbl., \$2 25; Corn Salad, ½ bbl., \$1 25; Lettuce, ½ 100, \$2 50; Celery ½ doz. bunches, 87½¢; Parsley, ½ doz. bunches, 37½¢; Leeks, ½ doz. bunches, 62½¢.

FRUITS.—Apples, Newtown Pippins, ½ bbl., \$4 50; 50; R. I. Greenings, ½ bbl., \$2 50; Baldwin's, \$2 25; Spitzburgers, \$2 50; Vandervers, \$2 25; Seek-no-further, \$2 25; Corn Salad, ½ bbl., \$1 25; Lettuce, ½ 100, \$2 50; and several other varieties, from \$2 50 to \$3 50 ½ bbl.; Cranberries, ½ bbl., \$5 50; Hickory-nuts, ½ bushel, 42¢.

The demand for apples is at present very limited, which aids in keeping the prices lower than would be supposed, when it is remembered that the usual channels of transportation from western markets have been so much obstructed by the severity of the weather for the past few weeks.

The probability of apples getting damaged at this season encourages the dealers to dispose of them as soon as possible. Those in store require to be closely examined from day to day, as a few injured ones would soon destroy the entire barrel; many are lost for want of this precaution. The profit of the dealer is quite small, owing to the perishable nature of fruit. Very little is offered now beside apples and cranberries.

The supply of vegetables was much larger than we expected to find in market this morning; the weather for a few days past was more favorable for getting them to market, but there were fewer purchasers than usual, and the market was rather dull. Some very large cabbages were offered at about the same rates as those of the previous week. Ruta Baga turnips are in good demand, though some of those in market are very small. Celery has advanced a little in price, and good lots are offered.

POULTRY is still in fair demand, at a very small reduction on last week's rates. Fowls are sold from first hands at from 20¢ to 10¢ per pound; turkeys and geese from 9¢ to 10¢. Retailers ask 11¢ for geese, and 12½¢ for turkeys.

Eggs from western New-York come packed in oats, in very good condition. There are not many from Ohio at present in market. They are never packed in salt, except for shipping or long distances. The wholesale price per dozen is, for the second quality, 23½¢, and for fresh eggs, 26¢. They are retailing at 5 for a shilling, and have been as high as 4 for a shilling. Only a few dealers are supplied.

NEW-YORK CATTLE MARKET.

Tuesday, Jan. 10, 1854.

To-day the new arrangement took effect, which changed

the day of holding the principal Cattle Market. A few lots were offered as usual, and brought higher prices yesterday than the butchers were disposed to give to-day; in fact there was a greater demand than had been anticipated, which, owing to the want of cattle, raised the prices. The new market-day does not give entire satisfaction, and it is feared will not be adopted. Those who signed the agreement, with we believe but one exception, adhered to it. Those who did not sign it, or were not consulted, of course took whatever course suited themselves; though in doing so they have caused some little excitement. The general opinion seems to be that Tuesday will not suit, and that another change will be made, though at present no new change has been decided upon. The market to-day was dull, and prices a little lower than those of last week. There were several lots of extra Cattle offered this week, one from Kentucky was acknowledged to be equal, if not superior, to any in market for some time past.

The number reported in market includes yesterday and to-day, as they were intended for one market.

Washington Yards, Forty-fourth street.

A. M. ALLERTON, Proprietor.

RECEIVED DURING THE WEEK.	IN MARKET TO-DAY.
Beeves, 3,125	2,660
Cows and Calves, 12	
Sheep, 1,851	
Veals, 228	

Forwarded by the Harlem railroad, beeves, 624.

By the Hudson River railroad, beeves, 593.

By the Erie railroad, beeves, 572.

The cattle were from the following States:

New-York; by cars, 954; on foot, 247.

From Pennsylvania on foot, 261.

From Virginia, on foot, 122.

From Ohio, on cars, 252.

From Kentucky by cars, 197.

From Connecticut, on foot, 201.

From New Jersey, on foot, 28.

The prices to-day were estimated at about half a cent lower than those obtained yesterday; the average will stand as follows, not including a few lots of extra cattle, which may have brought a higher figure.

Inferior, 7½¢ to 8½¢.

Middling 9¢ to 9½¢.

Superior, 10¢.

Extra, 10½¢.

The supply of cattle, it will be seen, on reference to the figures above, was much larger than on this day week, which will in part account for the decrease.

At Chamberlin's the number of cattle is small, and the quotations from 7½¢ to 10¢.

The following are the numbers at the other market places:

RECEIVED DURING THE WEEK.	IN MARKET TO-DAY.
CHAMBERLIN'S, Robinson street.	
Beeves, 300	20
Cows and Calves, 30	12
Sheep, 3,300	750
Veals, 25	
BROWNING'S, Sixth street.	
Beeves, 357	
Cows, 53	
Sheep, 2,786	
Only a few beeves on hand here.	
O'BRIEN'S, Sixth street.	
Cows, 25	
Beeves, 110	

At Chamberlin's the demand for beeves was not very brisk, prices are quoted at from 7½¢ to 10¢. There is no variation in the price of cows.

SHEEP.—A lot of 33 sheep were sold at Browning's @ \$18 each. One five year old wether of the Bakewell breed, weighed 160 pounds. Prices average from \$2 50 to \$7.

A few lambs were offered which averaged from \$2 to \$5.

JOHN MORTIMORE furnishes the following report of sales for the week:

Sheep, 160, average per head \$4 50—9½¢ cents per lb. for mutton; 60, average per head \$4 25—9½¢ per lb.; 95, average per head \$4 75—10¢ per lb.; 88, average per head \$5 25—10¢ per lb.; 124, average per head \$3 88—9¢ per lb.; 89, average per head \$4—9½¢ per lb.; 55, average per head \$4 25—10¢ per lb.

The supply of sheep during the week has been light, though the price of mutton has not advanced; the average price per pound in Washington market is from 5 to 8½¢.

A lot of 17 sheep, from H. L. DEVENDORF, of Montgomery Co., N. J., now on hand at Chamberlin's are equal to any offered this season; they are of the Cotswold breed; one of them is decidedly superior to any we have seen alive in this market; its weight when started was 204 pounds.

WM. DEHEART extracts the following from his sales-book: 39 sheep, \$115 88, average \$3 each; 45 @ \$5 25; 97, \$463 74, average about \$4 75. These were from Jersey. 25 @ \$4 25; 25 @ \$3 50; 108, \$440; 171, \$632 76; 70, \$350 25.

CHAMBERLIN quotes the price of sheep at \$3, \$4 50, and \$7.

VEALS.—There is very little difference in supply of veals, and prices average from 5 to 7¢.

SWINE.—Since the obstruction of the transportation of hogs by the North River boats, carcasses are disposed of at Washington Market, brought by the cars in large numbers at a little advance; the prevailing prices were 6½¢ to 7½¢ cts. according to quality. Single carcasses sold @ 8¢. prime quality. The price of live hogs varies from 5½¢ to 6½¢.

PRICES CURRENT.

Produce, Groceries, Provisions, Lumber, &c.

Asbes.			
Pot, 1st sort, 1853	100 lbs.	5 56½¢	—
Pearl, 1st sort, 1852	5	81½¢	—
Beeswax.			
American Yellow	lb.	27	28
Bristles.			
American, Gray and White	40	40	45
Coal.			
Liverpool Orrel	chaldron,	10 50	11
Scotch	—	—	—
Sidney	7 75	50	—
Pictou	8 50	—	—
Anthracite	2,000 lb.	6 50	7
Cotton.			
	Atlantic	Florida	Other Gulf
	Ports.	Ports.	Ports.
Inferior	—	—	—
Low to good ord.	7½¢ to 8½¢	7½¢ to 8½¢	7½¢ to 8½¢
Low to good mid.	9½¢ to 10½¢	10½¢ to 11½¢	11½¢ to 12½¢
Mid. fair to fair	10¢ to 11¢	11½¢ to 12½¢	12½¢ to 13½¢
Fully fr. to good fr.	11½¢ to 12½¢	12½¢ to 13½¢	13½¢ to 14½¢
Good and fine	—	—	—
Cotton Bagging.			
Gunny Cloth	yard,	10½¢ to 10½¢	—
American Kentucky	—	—	—
Dundee	—	—	—
Coffee.			
Java, White	lb.	13	13½
Mocha	—	—	—
Brazil	—	—	—
Maracaibo	—	—	—
St. Domingo	(can)	9½	10
Cordage.			
Bale Rope	lb.	7	7½
Boit Rope	—	—	—
Corks.			
Velvet, Quarts	gro.	35	45
Velvet, Pints	—	20	28
Phials	—	4	12
Feathers.			
Live Geese, prime	lb.	45	47
Flax.			
Jersey	lb.	8	9
Flour and Meal.			
Sour	½ bbl.	6 25	6 63½
Superfine No. 2	7 12½	7 31½	—
State, common brands	7 50	7 56½	—
State, Straight brand	7 56½	7 63	—
State, favorite brands	7 63	7 68½	—
Western, mixed do.	7 56½	7 63	—
Michigan and Indiana, Straight do.	7 63	7 68½	—
Michigan, fancy brands	7 68½	7 75	—
Ohio, common to good brands	7 75	7 81½	—
Ohio, round hoop, common	7 75	7 81½	—
Ohio, extra brands	7 75	7 81½	—
Michigan and Indiana, extra do.	7 75	7 81½	—
Genesee, fancy brands	7 75	7 81½	—
Genesee, extra brands	7 75	7 81½	—
Canada, (in bond)	7 50	—	—
Brandywine	7 68½	7 75	—
Georgetown	7 68½	7 75	—
Petersburgh City	7 68½	7 75	—
Richmond Country	7 68½	7 75	—
Alexandria	7 68½	7 75	—
Baltimore, Howard Street	7 68½	7 75	—
Rye Flour	5 31½	5 37½	—
Corn Meal, Jersey	—	3 75	—
Corn Meal, Brandywine	4 18½	—	—
Corn Meal, Brandywine	18	—	—
Grain.			
Wheat, White Genesee	½ bush.	1 95	2
Wheat, do., Canada (in bond)	1 80	1 85	—
Wheat, Southern, White	1 82	1 90	—
Wheat, Ohio, White	1 80	1 85	—
Wheat, Michigan, White	1 80	1 90	—
Wheat, Mixed Western	1 80	1 84	—
Wheat, Western Red	1 75	1 83	—
Rye, Northern	1 23	—	—
Corn, Unsound	78	79	—
Corn, Round Yellow	82	83	—
Corn, Round White	80	82	—
Corn, Southern Yellow	80	82	—
Corn, Southern Mixed	78	82	—
Corn, Western Mixed	78	81½	—
Corn, Western Yellow	80	—	—
Barley	84	86½	—
Oats, River and Canal	48	50	—
Oats, New-Jersey	48	49	—
Oats, Western	51	53	—
Oats, Penna.	48	50	—
Oats, Southern	45	46	—
Peas, Black-eyed	2 75	2 87½	—
Peas, Canada	1 18½	—	—
Beans, White	1 50	1 62	—
Hops.			
1853	lb.	45	48
1852	—	38	40

Molasses.			
New-Orleans.....	gal.	28	@
Porto Rico.....	gal.	23	@
Cuba Muscovado.....	gal.	23	@
Trinidad Cuba.....	gal.	23	@
Cardenas, &c.....	gal.	23	@
Nails.			
Out, 4d@60d.....	lb.	4 1/2	@
Wrought, 6d@20d.....	lb.	4	@
Naval Stores.			
Turpentine, Soft, North County.....	250 lb.	5	@
Turpentine, Wilmington.....	250 lb.	4 87 1/2	@
Tar.....	bb. 3	3	@
Pitch, City.....	2 75	@	
Resin, Common, (delivered).....	1 75	@	
Resin, White.....	250 lb.	4 75	@
Spirits Turpentine.....	gal.	66	@
Oil Cake.			
Thin Oblong, City.....	ton.	28	@
Thin, Round, Country.....	ton.	28	@
Thin Oblong Country.....	ton.	28	@
Provisions.			
Beef, Mess, Country.....	bb. 82 5	@	11
Beef, Prime, Country.....	5 50	@	5 75
Beef, Mess, City.....	13	@	13 50
Beef, Mess, extra.....	15 50	@	16 50
Beef, Prime, City.....	6 25	@	6 50
Beef, Mess, repacked, Wisconsin.....	20	@	24
Beef, Prime, Western.....	bb. 13 50	@	13 62 1/2
Pork, Prime, Western.....	11 12 1/2	@	11 25
Pork, Prime, Mess.....	14 50	@	15
Pork, Clear, Western.....	20	@	22 1/2
Lard, Ohio, Prime, in barrels.....	lb.	10 1/2	@
Hams, Pickled.....	9 1/2	@	10 1/2
Hams, Dry Salted.....	8 1/2	@	9 1/2
Shoulders, Pickled.....	6 1/2	@	7 1/2
Shoulders, Dry Salted.....	6 1/2	@	7 1/2
Beef Hams, in Pickle.....	bb. 13	@	15
Beef, Smoked.....	lb.	8 1/2	@
Butter, Orange County.....	20	@	22 1/2
Butter, Ohio.....	10	@	13
Butter, New-York State Dairies.....	16	@	19
Butter, Canada.....	11	@	12 1/2
Butter, other Foreign, (in bond).....	11	@	12 1/2
Cheese, fair to prime.....	8 1/2	@	10 1/2
Plaster Paris.			
Blue Nova Scotia.....	ton.	3 50	@
White Nova Scotia.....	3 50	@	3 62 1/2
Salt.			
Turks Island.....	bush.	4	@
St. Martin's.....	4	@	4
Liverpool, Ground.....	sack.	1 10	@
Liverpool, Fine.....	1 45	@	1 50
Liverpool, Fine, Ashton's.....	1 72 1/2	@	1 75
Saltpetre.			
Refined.....	6 1/2	@	8
Crude, East India.....	7	@	7 1/2
Nitrate Soda.....	5	@	5 1/2
Seeds.			
Clover.....	lb.	10	@
Timothy, Mowed.....	tee. 14	@	17
Timothy, Reaped.....	17	@	20
Flax, American, Rough.....	bush.	1	@
Linseed, Calcutta.....	1	@	1 1/2
Sugar.			
St. Croix.....	lb.	4	@
New-Orleans.....	4	@	6 1/2
Cuba Muscovado.....	4 1/2	@	6
Porto Rico.....	4 1/2	@	6 1/2
Havana, White.....	5	@	7 1/2
Havana, Brown and Yellow.....	5 1/2	@	7 1/2
Manilla.....	5 1/2	@	7
Brazil White.....	5	@	7
Brazil Brown.....	5	@	7
Stuart's, Double-Refined, Leaf.....	9 1/2	@	10
do. do. do. Crushed.....	9 1/2	@	10
do. do. do. Ground.....	8 1/2	@	9
do. (A) Crushed.....	9	@	10
do. 2d quality, Crushed.....	none.		
Tobacco.			
Virginia.....	lb.	5	@
Kentucky.....	5 1/2	@	9 1/2
Mason County.....	6 1/2	@	11
Maryland.....	12	@	15
St. Domingo.....	18 1/2	@	22 1/2
Cuba.....	40	@	45
Yara.....	25	@	1
Havana, Filters and Wrappers.....	15	@	60
Florida Wrappers.....	6	@	20
Connecticut Seed Leaf.....	5 1/2	@	15
Pennsylvania Seed Leaf.....	5 1/2	@	15
Tallow.			
American, Prime.....	lb.	11 1/2	@
Wool.			
American, Saxony Fleeced.....	lb.	50	@
American, Full-blood Merino.....	46	@	48
American 1/2 and 3/4 Merino.....	42	@	43
American, Native and 1/2 Merino.....	38	@	40
Extra, Pulled.....	46	@	48
Superfine, Pulled.....	42	@	44
No. 1, Pulled.....	38	@	40

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Instruction will be given, by means of text-books, lectures, and free conversations, on the applications of science to the cultivation and improvement of soils, the preservation and use of manures, the growing and disposal of crops, the care of animals, and, generally, to whatever relates to the management of a farm.

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Amherst, Dec. 21, 1853.

J. A. NASH.

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AMERICAN STEEL WORKS.—SAWS AND FILES.—SAMUEL D. WILLIAMS, Saw and File Manufacturer, Depot No. 8 Liberty street, offers for sale, on favorable terms, in quantities to suit—
Extra C. S. warranted Circular Saws, from 4 to 72 inches in diameter.

C. S. warranted Moly Mill Saws.
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do. do. Cross-cut and Tenon Saws.
do. and extra C. S. warranted Pit Saws.
do. do. do. Spring, Hand, Panel, and Rip Saws.

C. S. and extra C. S. warranted Billet, or Woodcutters' Webs of superior quality and make, at low prices.

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Best C. S. Turning and Fellow Webs, bevelled backs, 6 to 36 inches.

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Also, warranted Flat and Frame Saw Files.

The preceding of his own superior and approved make, of cast steel imported from Wm. Jessup & Sons, and other celebrated manufacturers in Sheffield.

Also, received by late arrivals, invoices of C. S. blue and brass-backed Saws, and C. S. and G. S. Hand and Panel Saws.

Wicksley Grindstones, from 10 to 70 inches diameter, imported expressly for manufacturers of surgical instruments, cutlery, &c.

English Saw Screws. Bright cotton-eyed Vices.

English Bastard and Mill Saw Files.

Saws and Files promptly made to order, and old Files recut. 2-19

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New-York, E. F. Sanderson, 16 Cliff street.
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LEATHER HOSE FOR THE CROTON WATER, FIRE ENGINES, SHIPS, STEAMBOATS, FACTORIES, &c. Suction Hose, Fire Buckets, Leather, Copper, and Brass Pipes, Couplings, Copper and Tinned Rivets, always on hand and for sale by JOHN H. BOWLE & CO., Hose Manufacturers, 25 Ferry street, New-York. 1-20

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SODA-WATER APPARATUS.—WILLIAM GEE, MACHINIST and Brass Finisher, also, manufacturer of the Premium Self-Acting Generators and Boiling Machines, at the Soda-Water Apparatus Manufactory, No. 58 Fulton street, 3d floor, New-York.

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Coolers in Tubs, Force Pumps, Model Making,
Copper Fountains, Gasometers, &c.

Jobbing done at the shortest notice. 1-18

MANUFACTURES.

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H. A. V. POST, Secretary.

BROADWAY WIRE WORKS.—WINTERBURN & SILK-WORTH, 430 Broadway, New-York, Manufacturers of Bird Cages of every pattern and quality; Safes, Wire-Fencing, Flower-Stands and Trainers, Wire Show-Frames, Refrigerators, Sieves, Riddles, and Screens; as also Wire Cloths of every gauge, which they offer to the public at liberal prices, and guarantee them as superior quality and make. The great success they have met with in their business leads them to believe that their efforts to please are appreciated. 2-18

THE "COMPOSITE IRON RAILING," MADE BY THE Atlantic Railing Works, combines great beauty, strength, and cheapness. It is a wrought iron framework, connected by ornamental cast iron ties, melted on and around the structure itself. It may be made light and graceful like the wire railing, or heavy and solid like the cast iron. Railings for Steps, Streets, Offices, Cemeteries, &c. also, Verandahs, Balconies, &c., for sale by GEORGE FOSTER, 388 Broadway, corner of Walker street, who is the only one authorized to sell this description of railing. 2-18

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RANGES AND HEATERS.—I AM NOW PREPARED TO supply those in want of a Cooking Range with one that is not only economical, but combines more conveniences for boiling, baking, &c., than any other in use. Also, the Etna Heater, for warming houses of any size. Apply to
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ISAAC FORD, 116 Elizabeth street, New-York.

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OLIVER, WIRE WORKER, NO. 25 FULTON STREET, corner of Water, up stairs.—Wove Wire of every description; Sieves and Riddles; coal, sand, and gravel Screens; and Wire Work of all kinds. Also, the most ingenious patent self-setting, revolving Rat-trap in the world. Locomotive spark Wire, &c. N. B.—Agricultural implement manufacturers supplied with wove wire at the shortest notice, and as low as at any factory in the Union. 2-24

FISH HOOKS AND FISHING TACKLE, NEEDLES, &c.—HENRY WILLISHER, Manufacturer and Importer of Needles, Fish-hooks and Fishing-tackle, consisting of Limerick and Kirby salmon, trout, bass, pike, perch and other hooks; Salmon, Lake, and Trout Flies; Cork and Wood Floats; Flax, Twisted and Plaited Silk, Chinese Grass Hair, and Cable-laid Lines; Bowed, Swivel, Hollow, and Plain Sinkers; Flax and Silk Lines ready for use; Silk-worm Gut; Snells; Double Twist, and Single Gut Leaders; Spoon Bait; Squids; Multiplying and Plain Reels, Nets, Artificial Fish; Walking-cane and other Rods; Lolley's and Chambers' Sail Needles; Pack and Willaher's superior Sharps and Between Needles, &c. Cheap for cash, in lots to suit purchasers, at No. 3 Cedar street, New-York. N. B.—Orders per mail or otherwise promptly attended to. 2-40

CHRISTIAN DIETRICH, IMPORTER AND MANUFACTURER of German Fancy Baskets. Also, Manufacturer of Cane and Willow ware, 32 Maiden Lane, New-York. Rattan Chairs, Baskets, &c., repaired. 6-18

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HYDROPATHIC AND HYGIENE INSTITUTE, No. 15 Laight street.—This establishment having been enlarged by the addition of the double house adjoining, can now accommodate about one hundred persons. Special department for the mechanical and surgical treatment of female diseases. 3-18 Dr. J. L. HOSFORD, Assistant.

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DYE-STUFFS, DYE-WOODS, ACIDS, &c.—WILLIAM PARTRIDGE & SON, No. 27 Cliff street, offer for sale, Lac Dye—50 cases, 40 bbls. ground. Safflowers—15 bales Argols—300,000 lbs. Sugar of Lead—30,000 lbs. brown. Sugar of Lead—15,000 lbs. white. Copperas—50,000 lbs. Outbeet—prime quality. Orpiment—French, English, and American. Alum—500 bbls., crude and ground. Wood—10 tons. Terra Japonica—50 tons. Outuh—18 tons. Fuller's Earth—50 tons. Manganese—30 tons. And a full supply of all the above. 3-30

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EYE-SIGHT.—E. S. FRANKS, SPECTACLE-MAKER, 52 Bowery, (third door from the Bowery Theatre.) Optician to the New-York Eye Hospital and Eye Infirmary, adjusts his Improved Spectacles to Weak Sight with unerring accuracy at a low price, and changes them without further charge, if not approved of. References: Drs. Dubois, Wilkes, and Halstead, Surgeons to the New-York Eye Infirmary; Drs. Stephenson and Rogers, Surgeons to the New-York Eye Hospital; Drs. Halstead and Buckley, Physicians to the New-York Hospital; Dr. Wood, late President of the New-York Academy of Medicine; Dr. Darling, Anatomical Demonstrator at the New-York University Medical College; Dr. Mott, Dr. Wallace, and Dr. Dixon, Editor of the Scalpel. 2-24

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THE EAR.—A. S. HEATH, M. D. AURIST AND OCULIST, devotes his attention, from 10 to 3, to the treatment of deafness, discharges from the ear, noises in the head, sore throats, and all diseases producing deafness and blindness, of which scrofula ranks first. Office, 40 Howard street, first door east of Broadway. 1-19

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S. F. COGSWELL, REAL ESTATE BROKER, 337 AND 339 Fulton street, Brooklyn, is prepared to give his personal attention to sales of Houses and Lands in the cities of New-York, Brooklyn, and Williamsburgh, and vicinity. Proprietors of houses and vacant lots, residing in the Country, who are not able to collect their rents except at very great inconvenience to themselves, or to dispose of their property, will find it to their advantage to call on the subscriber, who refers to the following gentlemen for testimonials: Hon. FRANCIS B. STREETEN, ex-Mayor city of Brooklyn, Hon. CONKLIN BRUSH, Pres. Mechanics' Bank, Brooklyn. 1-36

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